

Blow for Gorbachov on summit eve

Russian joy at Yeltsin's day of victory

From RICHARD OWEN IN MOSCOW

RUSSIANS waving their red, white and blue national flag danced for joy in Red Square last night when Mr Boris Yeltsin swept to power as President of the Russian Federation, three years after being consigned to political oblivion by President Gorbachov.

The news broke just after Mr Gorbachov left for his four-day summit with President Bush.

Mr Yeltsin, leader of the Democratic Russia parliamentary group, vowed to work with Mr Gorbachov on a "businesslike" basis. But his programme for Russian sovereignty and radical economic reform puts him on a collision course with the Soviet leader and deals a devastating blow to the Communist Party apparatus that tried to block his rise.

The new president immediately began talks with Communists and smaller groups to form a coalition government. He was later given a tumultuous reception at a Moscow stadium, where he told ecstatic supporters: "he would restore normality so that the word Russia will sound as it once sounded before".

Mr Yeltsin was elected with 531 votes, four more than the 531 he needed. In earlier rounds, on Friday and Saturday, he gained 497 and 503 votes. Deputies said the Communists had miscalculated by dropping their hard-line candidate, Mr Ivan Pleshkov, in favour of Mr Aleksandr Vlasov, Prime Minister of the

Russian Federation, who had been dropped for his "weak" performance on the market economy issue. Mr Vlasov received 467 votes.

Mr Gorbachov made a last effort to block Mr Yeltsin by meeting Communist deputies on Monday night, but reportedly realized that a Yeltsin victory was inevitable and agreed to a compromise under which Mr Yeltsin would be president with a conservative prime minister.

Mr Yeltsin was given a deafening standing ovation as he strode to the podium yesterday. He condemned recently-announced price rises, saying they had not been thought through, and placed the "whole burden on the shoulders of the people. Independence and sovereignty for Russia are not just aims, but belong to the people," he declared. He would spare neither health nor time "to get Russia out of this crisis". As he left, Mr Yeltsin was besieged with people weeping and kissing his hands.

Democratic Russia has about a third of the MP's in the Russian Parliament elected this spring and Mr Yeltsin yesterday ordered a 36-hour recess for coalition negotiations. Mr Yuri Prokofiev, head of the Communist Party in Moscow, said the Communists would work with parties that supported "the socialist choice", but not with anti-Communist parties.

Because the presidency of the Russian Federation is a new post, nobody knows precisely what Mr Yeltsin's relationship will be either with his government or with the central Soviet Government. Among the proposals the new Russian parliament has to discuss is a law revising the Treaty of Union, which is intended to clarify the "sovereign" status of the Russian Federation and its relations with the 14 other Soviet republics. Mr Yeltsin said yesterday that that would be among his top priorities.

Mr Yeltsin's triumphant return to power leaves Mr Gorbachov with the prospect of having to grapple with a rapidly disintegrating Soviet Union and an economic reform programme in real danger of collapse. The Supreme Soviet yesterday ended three days of debate on the planned market economy, with Mr Nikolai Ryzhikov, the Soviet Prime Minister, saying it would be "extremely dangerous" to abandon the plan.

Survival lesson, page 9
Taming the reformer, page 10



Red Square triumph: Mr Boris Yeltsin waves to jubilant supporters after his election success

Rail groups reject access

Western European railways yesterday said they would prefer to see governments spend heavily on unifying the rail systems of east and west Europe and developing high-speed routes rather than give free access to outside operators and separating network management from commercial operations.

But they welcomed proposals by Brussels to make networks more competitive.

They described free access for outside operators and splitting network management from commercial operations as surrogates for real solutions, and said it would lead to politicians in the place of rail management. Page 23

Suicide doubt

The investigating judge who has taken over examination of the death in Santiago, Chile, of Mr Jonathan Moyle, the British journalist hanged in his hotel room, has disclosed that two files are missing from the room, casting doubt on the theory of suicide. Page 4

Austria beef ban

Austria has banned imports of British cattle, sheep and goats and all meat and meat products derived from them, including pet food, because of fears about the "mad cow" disease, it was disclosed yesterday. Confidence falls, page 5

Visit postponed

President de Klerk of South Africa has postponed a meeting with President Bush in Washington, apparently over controversy about the timing of the visit, which would precede a tour by Mr Nelson Mandela by a few days. Page 7

Contrived win

Middlesex won their match against Gloucestershire at Lord's by 10 runs with two balls to spare in a contrived finish. They kept their opponents chancing a result by using an occasional bowler. Page 42

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Confidence-boosting welcome in Canada

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN OTTAWA

LOOKING tired and preoccupied, President Gorbachov arrived here yesterday for a brief state visit to Canada before travelling on to Washington for his summit with President Bush. He and his wife Raisa were greeted by Mr Ramon Nutzhynsh, the Canadian Governor-General, who is of Ukrainian descent, and Mr Brian Mulroney, the Prime Minister.

The formal welcoming ceremony at Uplands military airport incorporated a guard of honour by the red-jacketed Royal Canadian Regiment and a 21-gun salute. This is Mr Gorbachov's second visit to

Angry welcome, page 8
Winning esteem, page 10
Leading article, page 11

I think we had a better class of misery at Eton...

Twenty years hence this weather may tempt us from office stools; We may be slow on the feather, And seem to the boys old fools. But we'll still swing together, And swear by the best of schools.

The weather at Eton last night was jolly brooding rather than jolly boating, as recommended in the hammering school song by William ("They told me Heraclitus") Cory OE. But it did not deter more than 6,000 Old Etonians and companions from returning, at £6.50 a head, to celebrate the 550th anniversary of the foundation of their old coll. by Henry VI.

Chapman, sacking in the street, and hay harvest breeze blew thinning hair about, so that some of the OEs looked as though they had been eaten and brought up rather than brought up at Eton. As

George Orwell OE remarked on a similar occasion: drop a bomb here, and you would wreck all chance of fascism in England for a generation.

They celebrated traditionally with evensong in College Chapel, relayed by television and video to the overflow in Upper School, School Hall, and Lower Chapel. (If any school solves what is meant by "technology" in the national curriculum, it will, inevitably, be Eton.)

And then the procession of boats and fireworks, with which Etonians have been greeting the Fourth of June for more than two centuries. Like many Etonian institutions, these were originally unofficial, and even illicit. On a previous such occasion, the King (William IV) asked the famous flogging Head Master (Dr Keate) whether he was not coming to watch the procession of boats. Dr Keate excused himself majestically,

on the score that "he did not know there was such a thing".

The Fourth of June fireworks and nocturnal procession of boats were discontinued 20 years ago because of vandalism by champagne charlies. Drunken OE frogmen capsized two of the boats. But the traditions were brought back last night, with the boys dressed in the uniforms of officers in Nelson's navy, standing, wobbling, up in their boats, holding their cans vertically, and shaking the roses from their straw hats into the river, to be carried symbolically downstream, like fleeting youth, alas. As part of the jumming, the College has pushed the boat out by building another Monarch, to replace Eton's unique ten-oared boat, propelled inexperiently by top, not necessarily webbed boys. In the past generation, Eton

Continued on page 22, col 3

Still swinging together, 550 school years on

By PHILIP HOWARD

Labour plan for divorcees to divide up pension assets

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PROPOSALS under which divorcing couples would divide between them pension assets built up during their marriage are to be studied by the Labour leadership.

The plan is designed to give a better deal to the thousands of women who lose their right to their husband's personal or occupational pensions on divorce. The plan would also benefit men in cases where the wife is the pension contributor.

Mr Michael Meacher, shadow social security secretary, has proposed in a paper circulated to members of the Shadow Cabinet that, when they marry, husbands and wives should automatically register a 50 per cent interest in their total pension assets.

On divorce, the assets would be valued and halved, and each would later be paid a pension based on those assets in addition to any others they had built up by themselves. Cohabiting couples would have a similar right but they would have to request it.

Mr Meacher said that the scheme would save the taxpayer money because fewer pensioners would have to rely on means-tested benefits. He is to press his leadership colleagues for a commitment to early legislation by the next Labour government.

However, the plan was not contained in the party's manifesto blueprint published last week and will not be voted upon at this year's conference. Mr Meacher will press for it to be included in a later policy statement. If approved, the leadership would then have to decide whether it should be a manifesto commitment.

In his paper, Mr Meacher says that Britain is the "divorce capital of Europe" but unlike many of its European

Practical problems, page 2

Rail freight slashed

By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Rail is expected to announce draconian plans today to restructure its freight operations, after incurring heavy losses in the Railfreight Distribution sector of the national network.

Mr and Mrs Stephen and Miss Vicki Coss, were travelling in a British-registered car in Roermond, where an off-duty serviceman was killed in a previous IRA attack.

Mr Melrose's widow, Lynne, yesterday described as a "nightmare" the attack in which two hooded gunmen fired a hail of bullets at her husband as he took photographs of a church steeple. At first she thought the noise was caused by firecrackers, she said, but then she saw two men with "short guns" running across the town square shooting at her husband.

An Army spokesman in Germany said last night that British forces based on the Continent would continue to drive UK-registered cars despite the "insurmountable" risk for ordinary tourists of IRA attack. There is no change in policy," he said. The decision to change from distinctive forces plates to standard British ones was taken by ministers two years ago and it has provided a measure of protection, but there was always the risk that an innocent person would be caught up in an attack as a result.

"Using British plates at least give any attacker an element of doubt, although clearly this did not deter the terrorists in Roermond."

Open Europe, page 2

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TT2

The Roermond shootings

How an open Europe aims to close its doors to terrorists

From IAN MURRAY, BONN

THE IRA is using Europe's lax internal border controls to provide safe escape routes for its terrorists. That makes Roermond, the Dutch market town where two Australians were shot dead on Sunday, an ideal hunting ground.

Sunday was the second time in two years that the IRA had exploited Roermond's frontier location to carry out a murderous attack and escape without any real danger of pursuit. In 1988, an RAF man was killed and another wounded when IRA gunmen shot them as they slept in their car.

The killers on Sunday struck at 11.10 pm and escaped in a Mazda car, whose registration number was flashed accurately to police headquarters within minutes by an alert member of the

public. At 11.23, all border crossing points were notified of the car number, but it was too late. The Mazda had made the six-mile dash to the Belgian border. It was not until 1.15 on Monday morning that the car was discovered about 25 miles away at Leopoldsburg, where it had been set on fire.

The terrorists had disappeared, probably in another getaway car waiting for them in Belgium. The IRA did not claim responsibility for the attack until nearly 20 hours after the two Australians were killed. Such claims are never made until those involved have reported back to Dublin that they are safely out of the way of any likely pursuit. They could even have returned to Ireland by then, using purple EC passports, whose holders are subject to virtually no real check.

A new international border agreement

for the three Benelux countries, France and West Germany to increase police co-operation in the fight against terrorism, drugs and other crime, is expected to be signed in July, although it will be two years before the computers and administration necessary to make this "policing in depth" useful are geared up.

The treaty is meant to be a prototype of the kind of arrangement that will be in place when the EC opens all its internal borders after 1992. Called the Schengen Agreement after the little Luxembourg town where it was first considered, it will to all intents and purposes eliminate border formalities between the five countries. At the same time, their police forces are to co-ordinate and share all their information on computers so that, for example, criminals' records are immediately available and tips about

terrorists' movements are exchanged. The agreement will also allow for hot pursuit of criminals across frontiers. Only two months ago a West German jailbreaker escaped into Belgium with two hostages after killing a policeman. He was closely tailing all the way to the border. The Belgian police failed to pick up his trail when he crossed because they had not been told what was going on, while the West German police were not authorized to give chase over the border. The Schengen Agreement will change all that.

While "policing in depth" should make border towns such as Roermond less inviting to terrorists, military security experts accept there is little point in trying to camouflage servicemen's vehicles by swapping their civilian British licence plates for local West German

ones. The West German authorities, who originally had raised bureaucratic difficulties about this, have more recently been quite ready to co-operate in such a scheme if it were thought desirable, but this is not being considered because most servicemen buy right-hand drive cars, which would look even more conspicuous with local plates than with British ones. British military or private cars with a left-hand drive, however, are usually fitted with West German plates and servicemen buying them lose none of the tax or cheap petrol advantages they enjoy.

Little can be done either to disguise an off-duty serviceman, with his military bearing and short haircut. "They are fit and they look it. You can't really mistake them for anything but a squaddie," the Army said. "Their haircuts are just like

those fashionable among a lot of young people in Germany at the moment and there is nothing to say that they cannot wear earrings when they are off duty – and many of them do. But you can't disguise that extra bounce they have when they walk."

While sympathetic that the two Australians were killed because they were mistaken for soldiers, the British Army of the Rhine is upset that the victims of the shooting are being described as "innocent". Wing Commander Colin Taverner, who organized the funeral of an RAF corporal and his six-month-old daughter killed by the IRA last October, asked: "What do they mean by innocent? We are all innocent victims of IRA murderers. There is no such thing as a legitimate target for terrorists."

ANDY WATTS

Deaths like scene from horror film, wife says

By DAVID SAPSTAD

A DISTRAUGHT wife yesterday described the moment when, "like something out of a horror movie", her husband of less than a year was gunned down by an IRA murder squad in The Netherlands as he set up a tripod to take a photograph of a church.

Her husband, Mr Stephan Melrose, aged 24, and a fellow Australian lawyer, Mr Nick Spanos, aged 28, both working for the City of London firm of solicitors McKenna and Co, were killed "like sitting ducks" on Sunday night by two hooded gunmen in Roermond after being mistaken for off-duty British soldiers. The IRA has said it "deeply regrets" the error.

That apology was flatly rejected by Mrs Lyndal Melrose. "It doesn't do anything for myself and Vicki [Miss Coss, Mr Spanos' girl friend]. I don't think it will do anything for my suffering. It won't bring them back.

"I am in a state of nothing. I don't know what to think of the people who killed my husband. I still don't quite believe it has happened. It happened very quickly but I do remember everything. That is probably something that is going to come later on."

Mrs Melrose, who said she intended to return to Australia, added: "They didn't just come to us and shoot. We were parked in a square, a market place, and they started running and shooting from the bottom of the square to the car which was three-quarters of the way up it. I don't think they took any care to try and avoid us [Miss Coss and herself]. They happened to be



Mrs Melrose (left) and Miss Coss at the press conference. "I didn't know what had happened. We were just sitting ducks," Miss Coss said

able to kill the boys without touching us."

Mrs Beverley Melrose, Stephan's mother, said she wished the killers could know how she felt about the loss of her son. "It's a bit late for an apology" isn't it? "He's gone. We just wish they could know they have children."

• A Belfast judge yesterday condemned the use of violence in Ireland by people pursuing political ends.

Mr Justice McCollum said there was no possible justification for violence now whatever excuse there might have been in the past. His comments came as he jailed a Co Down man for 10 years at Belfast Crown Court.

Colin Magorrian, aged 26, of Castlewlan, admitted assisting the killers of William John Moreland, a part-time UDR soldier.



Mr Melrose: Was killed as he set up his camera



Mr Spanos: Mistaken for British serviceman

Bewilderment and outrage in Sydney

From ROBERT COCKBURN IN SYDNEY

AUSTRALIANS reacted with outrage and bewilderment that two countrymen on holiday should become victims of what most see as an ancient colonial war far removed from life here. For many families there is a shared concern and sympathy over the deaths of Mr Nick Spanos, of Sydney, and Mr Stephan Melrose, of Brisbane, who went to work and travel in Europe like so many other young Australians.

The troubles in Northern Ireland have briefly touched Australia in the most unfair way. Some kind of explanation is also wanted. Despite public expressions of outrage, efforts have been made to try to understand the IRA point of view, with radio and television air time given to the spokesman of an Irish nationalist organization which supports IRA military operations.

Mr Seamus McKittrick, of the Connolly Association, described the deaths as accidents of war, likening the men to German civilians killed in Dresden by RAF bombers in the last war.

Although Australia has a large and influential Irish population, there is little of the overt support seen here that the IRA enjoys in the United States through public fund-raising organizations.

Dr Neil Blewitt, the acting

Foreign Minister, said the IRA's policy of killing would be rejected by most Australians. Saying the IRA acted with hypocrisy after an act of wanton violence, he added: "There will never be an adequate apology for the families of the young men. One would hope that this wanton set of killings might lead the IRA to reconsider the path of violence down which it has gone for many years. I think they have children."

In an emotional interview with ABC Radio yesterday Mrs Beverley Melrose, mother of Mr Stephan Melrose, said she wished the killers could know how she felt about the loss of her son.

"It's a bit late for an apology" isn't it? "He's gone. There's nothing more can be done," she said. "We just wish they could know how we feel. We just hope that they have children. I guess that people who do things like this have absolutely no feeling. So it probably doesn't affect them a great deal. And we felt they should feel sorry."

Mr Melrose was married nine months ago to his wife Lyndal, who with Miss Vicki Coss escaped uninjured in the attack on the men. His mother said: "They were travelling around a lot while they were living in London, just having a ball."

Under the VAT arrangements, servicemen who buy cars – British or German – while on tour in West Ger-

HUNDREDS of British servicemen in West Germany have taken up the option of buying left-hand drive cars with German registration plates as an extra safeguard against terrorist attacks.

The German authorities agreed towards the end of last year to extend tax concessions to cover German cars as well as British models. The agreement to waive payment of value-added tax on new German cars meant that British servicemen could still benefit from the special tax arrangements which had always existed for the purchase of right-hand drive UK cars.

Even though the cars are registered in Germany, but an appeal on forces' television called for witnesses and the Army said it would help in any way possible.

• Holidaymakers planning to travel to the Continent were urged yesterday by motoring and tourism groups: "Don't let the IRA put you off."

Fears for the safety of Britons driving their own cars on the Continent have been expressed after the IRA attack. However, the Association of British Travel Agents said: "We don't think holidaymakers should worry unduly." The AA said: "Should motorists wish to avoid travelling near military bases abroad, the AA can plan a route for them accordingly."

many, have to keep the vehicle for a minimum of six months in the country and one year in Britain. If they sell the car, they lose the tax exemption.

After the murder of the two Australian tourists, servicemen have again been warned to be vigilant. A British military spokesman in Germany said: "There is no such thing as being completely safe. But we are not keeping our people behind barbed wire or telling them what to do with their free time. If we did that, we would be giving the terrorists a victory."

The Army is not involved in the hunt for the IRA gunmen, but an appeal on forces' television called for witnesses and the Army said it would help in any way possible.

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Hippies disperse
A convoy of more than 400 hippie vehicles with an estimated 1,200 occupants dispersed yesterday after a Bank Holiday weekend free festival of pop and rock music on Ingleside Common, near Bristol. Police said there were 61 arrests.

Writer's prize

A former down-and-out received a £1,000 literary prize from the Prince of Wales last night. Robert McLiam Wilson, aged 26, won the Betty Trask Prize for *Ripley Bogie*, a novel mirroring the author's life as a former Cambridge University student who ended up living rough in London.

Charity stamps

The charity Christmas stamps that raised £520,000 last year will not be repeated. The Post Office said it had hoped to raise more than £1 million. A spokesman said that people seemed to prefer donating to a charity of their own choosing. The money has been distributed to 200 local charities.

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Churches' lost art treasures are found

By SIMON TAIT
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

TREASURES lost in dusty vestry cupboards and works of art that have hung above congregations unremarked have been rediscovered by volunteers in a painstaking programme to record church art.

One jewel-encrusted chalice was found in a bank's vault only because of the insistence of a researcher from the National Association of Decorative and Fine Art Societies that the item must exist because she had seen mention of it in an ancient parish listing.

The enormous task of recording the contents of Britain's 17,000 churches, begun in 1973 by the association's church recorders was rewarded last night with one of five National Art-Collections Fund Awards for 1990.

The recorders have so far monitored 400 churches. Mrs Jennifer Beazley, the association's chairman, said: "The £5,000 prize will go towards training more volunteers."

The other winners of last night's awards, sponsored by Slough Estates, were Rosalind Savill, for her catalogue of



Rediscovered: Madonna and child from Letchworth, Herts

Sèvres porcelain; the National Gallery for its Art in the Making exhibition; the Edward James Foundation, for giving West Dean House to form an educational charity; and Chloe Blackburne for an art collection in a men's hostel.

Plan to split pension rights on divorce 'too complicated'

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A LEADING pensions lawyer gave a warning yesterday that Labour Party proposals to divide a divorcing couple's pension rights could be "unfair" or fraught with "practical problems".

Miss Harriet Dawes, who was the founder chairman of the Association of Pension Lawyers, said that although she had sympathy with the thinking behind the proposals, they would not be straightforward to implement.

"I would very much favour finding a way of sorting out people's pension benefits on divorce. That is in the public interest. But at present there seems no way of doing it. It would be enormously complicated."

Miss Dawes, a partner with the City firm of solicitors Lovell, White and Durrant, said: "I can see quite a lot of problems in operating this in practice."

The whole issue was examined in a paper from the Lord Chancellor's Department in 1985, which proposed legislation to enable the trustees of occupational pension schemes to amend those schemes to provide for an apportionment of benefits in favour of the former spouse on divorce.

Those proposals were never implemented. But they won the backing of the Occupational Pensions Board (of which Miss Dawes is a member). The proposals differ from those of the Labour Party in that they involve delegating the power to deal with the division of benefits on divorce to the managers of schemes themselves.

The Labour Party proposals would be more acceptable to the trustees because the rules governing apportionment would be set down in legislation, Miss Dawes said. Because of the complexity of the task, the new rules "had to be laid down either by the courts, or in legislation."

• Mr Mike Brown, of the National Association of Pension Funds said it would be difficult to split pension rights upon divorce (Lindsay Cook, Family Money Editor writes).

He said that most company schemes base pensions on the final salary of the employees and it would therefore be difficult to split such an entitlement ahead of retirement.

"Firms could work out a notional transfer value but this would have an element of

subjectivity and be administratively expensive. It would not only involve the pension with the present employer but any deferred pensions with old employers, buyout pensions, personal pensions or additional voluntary contributions."

Divorced first wives suffered under the current system because the husband usually takes his pension rights and then leaves a widow's pension to his wife at the time of death, he continued.

"This would only redistribute the existing assets and seems to be based on the idea that the first wife is left with nothing because she has not worked and cannot get pensionable employment after the divorce. But nowadays wives have pension rights of their own and this system could end up splitting two lots of pension entitlement and not making a lot of difference to the husband or the wife."

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Solicitors set to win 'kitemark' for service

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A FIRM of solicitors is expected to score a legal first soon when it wins the equivalent of the "kitemark" for its customer services.

Pannone Blackburn in Manchester has been working for some 18 months towards British Standards Institute approval of its service to clients. It is now in the middle of a 16-week implementation period which could make it the first solicitors' firm to qualify.

BSI approval will mean the firm has met criteria covering everything from the moment the client walks in the door to the time taken to deal with letters and how clients are kept informed about the progress of their cases.

The firm's senior partner, Mr Rodger Pannone, is a Law Society council member and a leading legal reformer. In his private practice, he pioneered the country's first "disaster"

Town hit by football violence

By JOHN GOODBODY
SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

SHOPKEEPERS and homeowners in Swindon were repairing their damaged and looted premises yesterday after a mob of supporters of the town's football team went on the rampage while celebrating the club's promotion to the First Division for the first time.

Apart from the violence earlier this month at Bournemouth, which will be the subject of an inquiry by the Football Association today, the town centre violence by Swindon supporters was the worst outbreak of hooliganism in England this season. It comes only 12 days before the World Cup opens in Italy, when the spotlight will be on the conduct of England fans.

Travellers on a bus were terrorized, litigated matches thrown through a hotel window, burning curtains and carpets, and windows smashed, while stones were hurled at police. The violence began after over 1,000 supporters gathered to celebrate Swindon's win over Sunderland on Sunday.

Doomed man 'was perfectly calm'

A RADIO operator remained calm as flames erupted round him on a blazing oil platform, an inquiry was told yesterday. Timothy Williams radioed a rescue helicopter requesting help to get him off the platform just minutes before he died.

When Captain Gregory Manning told him he could not land his aircraft on the helipad, Mr Williams, aged 25, of Greenhithe, Kent, asked for the best route out of the radio room. But Captain Manning, who was unfamiliar with the layout of the Ocean Odyssey platform, could only tell Mr Williams where fire had broken out so he could work out an escape route himself.

"It wasn't until the closing part of his message, after he had acknowledged that information, that there was some note of stress in his voice," Captain Manning told

the resumed inquiry in Aberdeen into Mr Williams's death. "Once that had happened it alerted me to the fact that he was in some real danger and I tried to call him back. But he did not reply."

Before the final message, he did not think Mr Williams was at risk, because his voice was "so perfectly composed and calm".

Earlier, a boatswain who plucked eight men from the sea after the oil platform explosion said he had to break off his search for survivors because flames threatened to blow his boat apart. Mr Howard Leedham, of Hull, said the sea was "boiling like kettle".

Sixty-six men were saved on September 22, 1988, after a blow-out and fire under the Ocean Odyssey as it was drilling an experimental well 130 miles off Aberdeen. The inquiry continues today.

An A to Z for ill-informed family hypochondriacs

By THOMSON PRENTICE, SCIENCE CORRESPONDENT

FALLING almost exactly halfway between abdomen and zygote in the British Medical Association's new health encyclopaedia, the entry on page 555 gives a clue to a section of its potential readership.

It defines hypochondriasis as: "An unrealistic belief or fear that one is suffering from a serious illness, despite medical reassurance." Hypochondriacs, it says, "worry constantly about their bodily health and interpret any physical symptom, however trivial, as evidence of a serious disorder."

Opportunities for this tendency abound in one million words, 5,000 entries, 2,000 illustrations and 1,184 pages of this tome, published today, which has been compiled over six years for the association by a team of doctors and specialists.

Dr Tony Smith, its editor, insisted yesterday that the *BMA Complete Family*



Determined to prove that age is no bar to beauty, a model agency was launched yesterday with no one on its books under the age of 40. Déjà Vu, which claims its assault on "ageism" is unique, has signed famous faces from the Sixties and Seventies, including the trio above, seen below in the 1960s and as they are now. They (from left) Primrose Austen, Pat Knight and Tania Mallett. The agency's oldest models are over 70.

Three die as police follow drivers

By STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE accident investigators are examining two crashes in which three people died while being followed by police.

In one incident, Gary Mason, aged 16, who was in social services care, died early yesterday after his stolen Fiesta XR2 veered off a country road and overturned near Loughborough, Leicestershire.

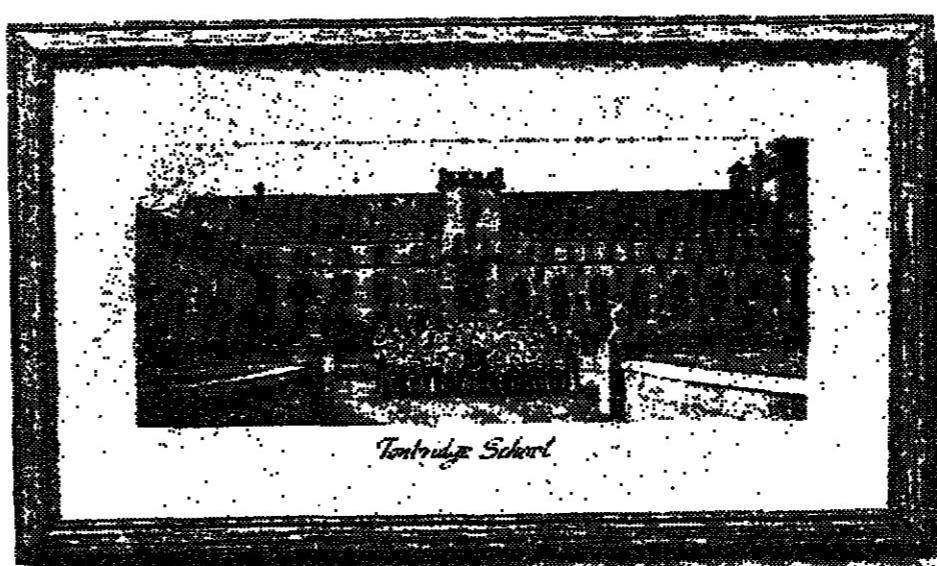
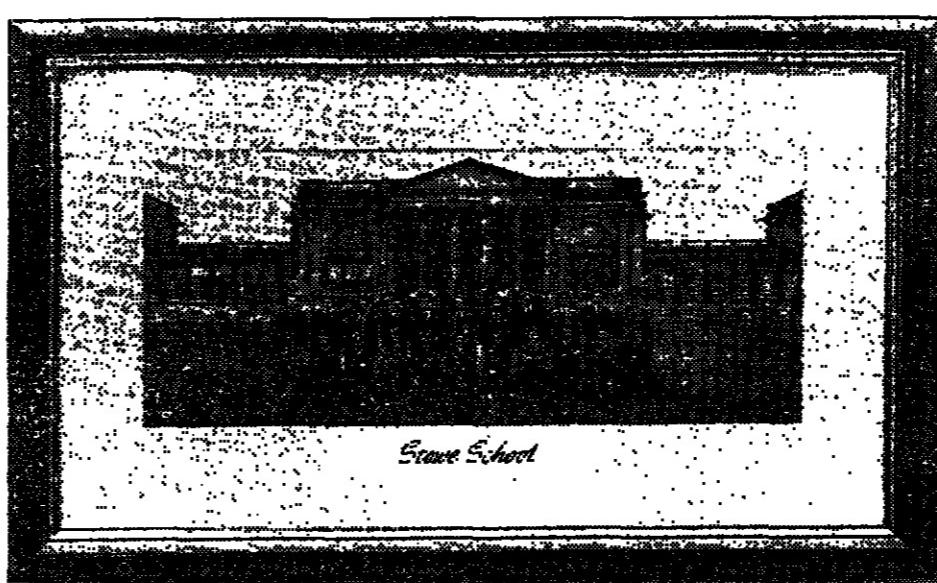
Police said that a panda patrol saw the XR2 being driven erratically. They followed, suspecting the driver might be drunk, putting on their blue light and summoning help. A spokesman said that the patrol car did not pursue the XR2 but followed it.

In the other incident, at Farnham, Surrey, two motorcyclists died when their stolen motorcycle crashed after they had refused to stop for police. The crew of a patrol car spotted the 750cc motorcycle in Farnham and signalled for it to stop for a routine check.

When it failed to pull over they put on the blue light but the bike sped off. The police lost sight of the motorcycle and then found it crashed.

A police spokesman said: "The police tried to stop the motorcycle to check it out and were following behind but it disappeared. There was not enough time for a pursuit. The closest they got to it was 200 yards. It wasn't until an hour after the crash that police discovered the bike was stolen."

The names of the dead men were not being released until next of kin were informed.



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THE LEARNING CURVE

Peers rallied for debate on war crimes Bill

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Government and Labour front benches in the Lords have launched a rearguard initiative to prevent the legal heavyweights intending to speak at the war crimes legislation by dominating next week's debate.

The business managers are rallying lay peers to speak to make sure that, whatever way the vote goes, it is representative of the House. Most legal heavyweights oppose it as "retrospective legislation" which is changing the law solely to catch one group of suspects.

They believe that a representative vote would give the upper House a stronger defence against ministerial charges of provoking a constitutional conflict with the elected chamber and make it less likely that the Government would use the Parliament Act next session to force through the legislation against the peers' wishes.

The tactic is likely to result in a much closer vote than previously forecast, even though informal soundings still record a majority of peers firmly against staging Nazi war crimes trials in Britain. Although the Lords, like the Commons, will have a free vote on the Bill, the "whip" put out to his 400 peers by Lord Denham, the Government Chief Whip, has underscored the debate with a fine line to encourage attendance.

So far, 47 peers, most of them from the Conservative and Independent cross-benches, have put their names down to speak in the second-reading debate next Monday. They include Lord Shawcross, the former Labour Attorney General and prosecutor at Nuremberg, who recommended

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Missing documents add to doubts on journalist's suicide

By LIN JENKINS

A WALLET, briefcase and two files were missing from the Chilean hotel room where a British journalist was found hanged in March, it was disclosed yesterday.

Judge Alejandro Solis, who is examining the death of the defence specialist Mr Jonathan Moyle, said the missing documents were noted only after he replaced the local police team working on the case with men from the criminal investigation unit (SO-7). He had done that because he was concerned about the "loose ends" in initial reports suggesting the death was suicide.

Mr Moyle, aged 28, editor of *Defence Helicopter World* and a former RAF helicopter pilot, had been in Chile for an international aerospace fair. He was due

to leave for La Paz on the day he died to join a CIA drugs mission to the Bolivian jungle, but Chilean police have ruled out the possibility that he was murdered by drug barons.

His 5ft 8ins body was found hanging from a clothes rail 5ft off the ground in a cupboard with the door closed from the outside. A post-mortem examination found sedatives in his stomach, something he had not been known to take. A chambermaid at the Santiago hotel later remembered finding blood on sheets near the bottom of his bed. A further examination of his body on its return to Britain found bruising to his calves.

Mr Tony Moyle, his father, said from his home in Devon: "It shows every sign that he was injected with something. I knew right from the beginning he had

not committed suicide, it just is not something he would do. He had telephoned us shortly before his death and was looking forward to his visit to Bolivia to join the Americans on their helicopter assault on the drug cartels. Jonathan had a great enthusiasm for his work and would have been pleased to get a good story for his magazine."

"My sister, who has been a nurse for 40 years, has seen his body. His face is in repose and there are no broken blood vessels. He did not commit suicide." Mr Moyle has been in touch with Judge Solis over a theory that his son had been murdered in connection with his investigation into breaches of the ban of sales of arms to Iraq.

Before leaving Britain, Mr Moyle, who held a masters degree in international

politics and strategic studies, told at least one person that he was interested in reports that 50 helicopters had been ordered by Iraq. While in Chile he did further work on the reports, and had details in his notebooks of an advanced missile guidance system and sketches to accompany them.

Mr Moyle met Mr Carlos Cardoen, chairman of Industrias Cardoen SA, a Chilean arms producer, and Mr Raoul Montesino, the press officer. Mr Montesino met him in the bar of his hotel and is thought to have been the last person to see him alive. A spokesman for Judge Solis said yesterday that Mr Montesino was among 30 men who were to be interviewed in the investigation.

Cardoen denies that its new helicopter has been designed for military purposes.

Mr Cardoen has sent a lawyer to Europe to sue any members of the media that implied he or his company had been involved in the death. Miss Catherine Royle, of the British Embassy in Santiago, said: "Mr Cardoen has informed us that he intends to sue Channel 4 News over its report into the death. We do not know how Mr Moyle died and are awaiting the judge's report which could take several more weeks. He is very keen to do a thorough investigation because of the international implications and the rumours going around. Suggestions have been made here that the Iraqis were responsible, but nobody has any hard facts."

"Experts tell us that it was quite possible for him to have committed suicide, and there is no evidence of a

motive for murder, but we are not in a position to judge."

She denied that the embassy had been unhelpful to the family. "We have done everything we can do to help." Mr Moyle's father maintains his communication with Judge Solis has been through letters ferried by journalists, since those sent through diplomatic channels did not arrive.

Mr Richard van Oppen, Exeter and East Devon coroner, has adjourned an inquest into the death. It will not be held in full until a further report has been sent by Judge Solis.

Channel 4 News said Cardoen's lawyers had not been in contact, and it was unaware of any pending legal action.

Leading article, page 11

No records of Maguire forensic test, inquiry told

NO PHOTOGRAPH or print-out was made of the results of the forensic test which led to the 1976 conviction of the Maguire family for running an IRA bomb factory, a London inquiry heard yesterday.

All visible proof that traces of explosive were found on their hands and gloves faded away hours after the test. Pink spots indicating the presence of nitroglycerine developed during the test by an 18-year-old trainee government scientist, Mr David Wyndham, but disappeared naturally.

No photograph or print-out of the result was obtained, Mr Douglas Higgs, retired head of forensic science at the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment at Woolwich, told the judicial inquiry into the conviction of the Maguires.

The Maguires were convicted solely on the result of that test and no second confirmation test was conducted.

Mr Higgs, aged 69, added on his fourth day of questioning: "This particular test leaves no visible record." The pink hue faded in time - "if left in the atmosphere within one hour, maybe two hours".

If covered by a glass plate "it would remain fairly detectable for 24 hours". He agreed that no attempt was made to photograph the spots.

"We have considered this but, if you bear in mind the true colour recorded on photographic plate and the accusations that can be made that you have enhanced your print, I don't think that, as evidence, takes you any further than the memory of the operator when he does the test."

"It is full of potential pitfalls, therefore we didn't choose to do that." Now, a video camera could be used.

Mr Patrick O'Connor, counsel for Giuseppe Conlon, one of the Maguire seven, asked if there was no graph or

print-out, a physical record, left by the test.

Mr Higgs replied: "We have even considered the possibility of photo-electrical measurement whereby you could record a graph of some sort but looking at graphs some time later is very confusing."

The seven were convicted for handling nitroglycerine at the family home in Kilburn, north-west London, after the IRA bombed public houses in Guildford, Woolwich and Birmingham in 1974.

Mrs Annie Maguire, now aged 54, her sons Patrick, aged 29, and Vincent, aged 31, her brother Sean Smyth, aged 52; husband Patrick, aged 57, his brother-in-law Giuseppe Conlon, aged 52, and a family friend, Patrick O'Neill, aged 49, were sentenced to prison terms of between five and 14 years.

The inquiry was ordered in October by Mr Douglas Hurd, then Home Secretary, as part of the investigation into the quashed convictions of the Guildford Four.

The family came under police scrutiny after being implicated in confessions by two of the Guildford Four. Those confessions were later retracted.

Mr Higgs said the Maguire case was the only one of which he was aware in which results of swab tests had not been corroborated by an actual explosion.

He did not believe Mr Wyndham was given a printed set of instructions on how to carry out the test. Mr Higgs said he would have copied into his notebook verbal instructions from his tutor, Walter Elliott.

Asked about the system of checking the laboratories for contamination, Mr Higgs said worktops were swabbed and checked probably every two weeks.

The hearing was adjourned until today.



Sammy, an orphaned wallaby, owes his life to Miss Angela Potter, a warden who reared him at West Midland Safari and Leisure Park. Sammy, now eight weeks old, spent his early days in an old woollen hat and had to be fed hourly.

Human barrier threat to poll tax poinding

By KERRY GILL

PROTESTERS against the social benefit she cannot afford the bill which, with legal fees, now totals £118,40. The local poll tax was £295 last year but, because of her low income, Mrs Ross is entitled to a rebate.

Mrs Ross, who lives in a tenement flat with her son aged 16, said: "The officers will have visited my house twice before, but I wasn't in. The other day, I received a notice saying that they had the power to force entry if I wasn't there tomorrow."

"Even if they get into the house, there is not a lot they can take."

Mr Sheridan said that whatever happened, it would prove a moral victory for the federation. "We hope the sheriff officers turn up tomorrow to see the strength of feeling and see the kind of peaceful demonstration they can expect in every other house of people who refuse to pay."

If police were called to the house the protesters would still try to stop the poinding, he said.

Anti-poll tax campaigners have stopped poindings in other Scottish regions, and Strathclyde has said poindings would only be instigated as a last resort. However, with almost 20 per cent of people either refusing to pay or seriously in arrears, its patience has now run out.

A legal loophole that makes banks work for nothing is expected to be plugged because of fears of costly searches for poll tax non-payers. If the law was not reformed, Scottish banks could face a combined bill of up to £20 million, it was stated yesterday.

The Scottish Law Commission suggested that banks should be allowed to charge for searching their records. At present, anyone owed money can ask a bank free of charge to find out whether a debtor has money at any branch.

Yesterday, Lord Davidson, chairman of the commission, and the other commissioners proposed that banks should be allowed to charge £10 for each search at headquarters and an extra £1 for a search at each group of 20 branches. The Royal Bank of Scotland, with 826 branches throughout Britain, would be able to charge a council £50 for each search.

Appeal by father of murdered runaway

The father of a murdered teenage runaway appealed yesterday for information about his son's last days alive (Peter Davenport writes).

Simon Martin, aged 14, was found by two 15-year-olds on Saturday in a derelict house on Sunderland seafront known to be a haunt of glue-sniffers. He had left home eight days earlier, apparently without reason.

His father, Mr Robert Martin, appealed for anyone who saw his son in the days before he was found to contact the police. A post mortem has shown that he died from brain injuries caused by a solid object. Police said there was no evidence to suggest that he had been using solvents.

West Country hosepipe ban

South West Water is to impose a hosepipe ban on Friday which will affect 180,000 consumers. The restriction will cover parts of north Devon and north Cornwall, Torbay, South Hams, east Devon and Teignbridge. The water authority blamed a lack of rain for the ban.

Body in cave

Police searching for Michael Boultton, aged 16, who disappeared 13 months ago while jogging near Eyan, Derbyshire, were yesterday examining a body found by a potholer 75 yards into Ivy Green Cave, a mile from the boy's home.

Man remanded

Mr John Hope, aged 44, a private investigator of Warwick, West Midlands, appeared at Birmingham Magistrates' Court yesterday charged with aiding and abetting the abduction of a girl aged three in the city. He was remanded in police custody until Friday.

Coracle museum

A coracle museum, incorporating the workshop of Mr Ron Davies, one of the last coracle makers, has been opened in Cenarth, Dyfed, by Mr Martin Fowler, the local postmaster, to preserve the ancient art of coracle-making.

Ice breaker

A family of four escaped injury when a chunk of ice the size of a football, thought to have come from an aircraft, crashed through the roof of their house in Nursery Close, Thurneyston, Leicestershire.

Clean away

Thieves stole a 40ft container loaded with 144 washing machines valued at £80,000 from a lorry park at Felixstowe, Suffolk, yesterday.

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Breakthrough for male sex problems

AN important breakthrough in the treatment of male impotence has led to unprecedented success in recent clinically controlled trials.

Results of the new treatment on 1,500 men has proved that the majority of sufferers can now be successfully treated. A spokesman for The London Diagnostic Centre, a leading independent clinic specialising in the field of male sexual problems said yesterday:

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Promotion denied 'because of sex bias'

AN AMBULANCE worker was denied promotion eight times because of her sex, a tribunal was told yesterday.

Mrs Kathy Wheeler, a training officer aged 37, was always told she did not have the right qualifications when applying for jobs and was branded a troublemaker, the tribunal at Ebury Bridge, Victoria, London, was told.

He has always been a struggle. I have had to fight for everything," she said. "I've always had to work two or three times harder than the men for qualifications."

Most of Mrs Wheeler's male colleagues did not have to ask for jobs or training courses, they were just allocated them, she said.

Mrs Wheeler, of Bullers Road, Farnham, Surrey, was turned down for three jobs within the London Ambulance Service training unit at Waterloo, central London, last year. A man was appointed in each instance.

Mrs Wheeler also claimed that one candidate for the post of assistant divisional officer, for which she applied last September, had been groomed for the job by her boss. "He knew all the answers when no one else did," she said.

Mrs Wheeler is claiming sexual discrimination and victimisation by the London Ambulance Service for the last six of her 15 years' service. "All members should have equal opportunities," she said. "The ambulance service does not give equal opportunities to its employees." The hearing continues today.

Ceramics records tumble

SALE ROOM

By SARAH JANE CHECKLAND
ART MARKET CORRESPONDENT

£30,000 to £40,000. The price, the new record for British ceramics, compares with the previous record of £12,200. The salt made £620 at Sotheby's in 1962.

Mr Horne continued what was to become a £1.4 million spending spree by paying £14,000 for a London Delft dated candlestick (estimated at £20,000), and the same price for a bulging wine bottle painted with a portrait of Charles II in armour (estimate £60,000).

A spokesman for Mr Horne said that he had bought seven items, "partly for a client and partly for stock".

Mr Horne, after his £1.4

million spree, said: "I feel shell-shocked. That's a lot of money for pottery. It didn't leave very much for anyone else."

Most of his purchases would go to the United States, and he will shortly be applying for export licences.

An anonymous buyer also broke the record for slipware, paying £93,500 (estimate £30,000) for a charger by the leading Staffordshire maker Ralph Simpson. Its centre is decorated with a stylized cat with a human face.

Sotheby's had similar success with a salt of Chinese export porcelain. A pair of Qianlong pheasants, each standing on clawed legs painted in vivid yellow, sold to the London dealers Partridge Fine Arts for £132,000, double the estimate, breaking the record for 18th century Chinese export birds.

of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds who had come to observe puffins. Mr Stan Davies, regional director for the society, who was one of the first to identify the bird, said: "It was very exciting for the people on our trip. They had only gone out to Lundy to see the puffins, but ended up seeing the murrelet. It must rate as the rarest bird seen in Europe for some time."

"We had to go and borrow a bird book before we could identify what it was. It must have been blown from the Pacific to the Atlantic across Panama or at Cape Horn, and then taken back north by the winds and currents."

The murrelet was spotted on Sunday at Jenny's Cove on the island by 250 members

lightning which could strike the house down at the interest of a switch.

Then it was cast that defeated these poor smallholders, until a way was found to subsidize the estimated £25,000 bill with money from the European Community. Even so, the outlay for each family is astronomical.

Mr Keady and his wife Elizabeth, who have three children, have to find £2,000 from an income consisting of unemployment benefit and whatever he can earn from his seven acres, six cows and a pony.

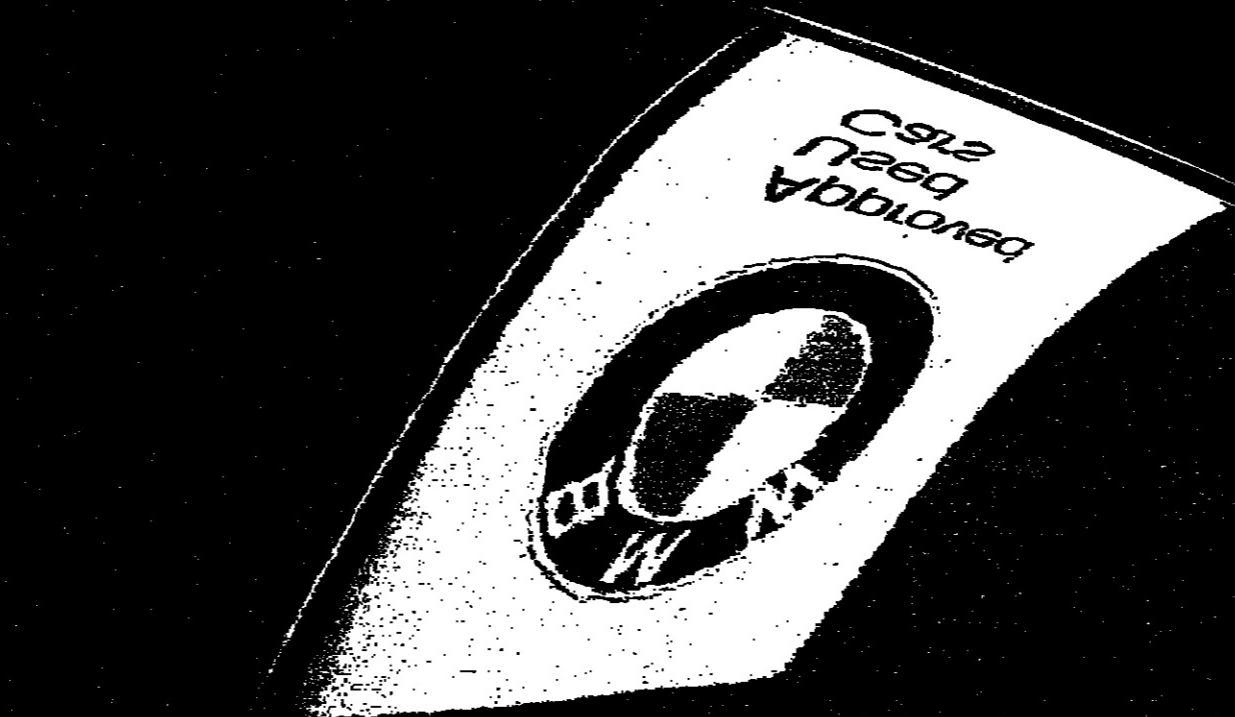
But he is ready for the 20th century. His house is wired and there is a bulb in every room. He has bought a new refrigerator and acquired an old television set, which is broken but not beyond all hope. On Friday, the big day of the switch-on and 204 years since electricity was invented, Mr Keady will be host at a celebration party for his neighbours. There will be dancing and a few glasses of the mountain dew.

Mr Keady says he never gave up hope that he would see electricity in his house before he died. "God was always on my side," he said. It has been hard on the children, who have struggled with homework without sufficient light, and the family has always feared that one day a candle might fall and set the house on fire.

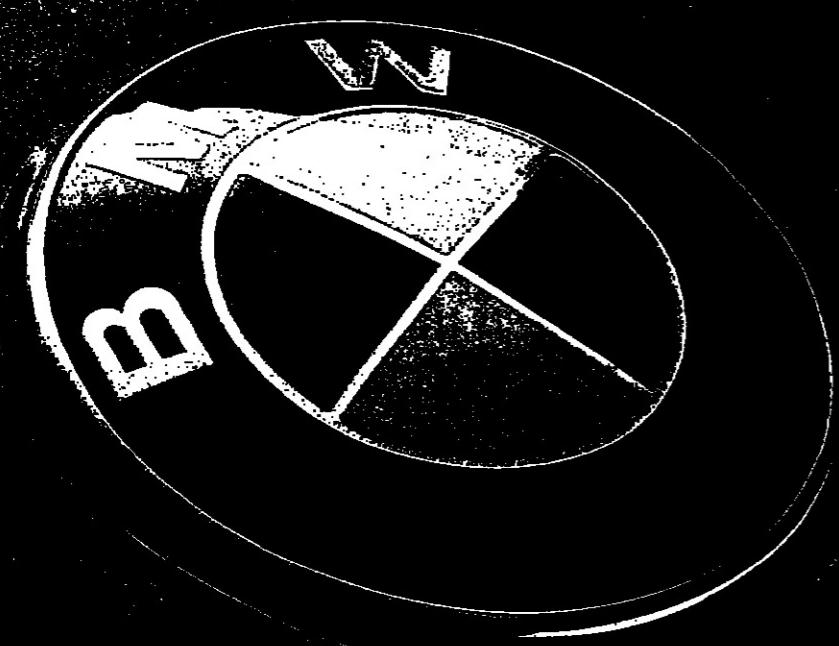
Mr Keady, who spends his day "footing" the peat turves, "making it up", and gathering piles of water, is looking forward to watching the news and the horse-racing. For him the coming of electricity merely confirms that his house is in the finest location in the world.

"When you get up in the morning, you have the feeling that you are enjoying yourself with your work and you carry on from one day to the next," he said. "I'm happy doing that. We are here on our own and we don't bother anyone - just nice and quiet."

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Prague revolution 'engineered by the secret police'

By JOHN SIMPSON

THE revolution in Czechoslovakia was completed in two weeks without the breaking of a window, as the Czechs and Slovaks say proudly. For those who remember the events of 1968, or who saw at first hand the repression in the years which followed, it was a superb moment when Mr Vaclav Havel was inaugurated as President on December 29 and his friends gave up their jobs as stokers or night-watchmen and became government ministers. But what if the unexpected revolution happened, not by good luck and good judgement, but because it was planned by a small group of secret policemen, with the encouragement of the KGB and perhaps of President Gorbachov himself?

Conspiracy theories, the self-exculpatory myths of intelligent people under repression, abound in Central Europe. When I was asked to script a BBC2 documentary which suggested that the revolution in Czechoslovakia had been engineered in this way, I was deeply sceptical. Yet the quality of the evidence is impressive.

It comes in part from Dr Milan Hulik, a leading member of a 10-man parliamentary commission set up by the new Government to investigate the violence of Friday, November 17. By attacking a student demonstration that night the Prague police began a chain of circumstances which ended in the downfall of the Communist Government. There have long been suspicions about the origins of what is referred to in



Swept from power: Mr Miroslav Stepan, left, and his leader, Mr Milos Jakes, right, both forced to resign from office in November last year

Prague as "the massacre". Now Dr Hulik's commission has interviewed most of those closely involved and issued an interim report. He was persuaded to talk on camera by Miss Zuzana Bluh, a student leader during the Prague Spring, who worked on the documentary and has read the report.

Its findings may be summed up as follows. Towards the end of 1988 a small group of prominent party figures, together with General Alois Lorenc, the head of the StB, the Czechoslovak counterpart of the KGB, met in secret. Unlike their superiors, they were all

supporters of Mr Gorbachov's policies. They drew up a paper which concluded that the leadership of Mr Milos Jakes and Mr Miroslav Stepan lacked all popular support and could not survive long. Sooner or later, it said, the party would have to come to terms with the opposition. The old leadership should be ousted, and there should be a new offensive to infiltrate the dissident movement. Thus the way would be open for a moderate, Gorbachovian leadership to negotiate with a divided and weakened opposition.

General Lorenc undertook the task of

infiltrating the various opposition groups. The plan, code-named Operation Wedge, was highly successful. But removing Jakes and Stepan from the leadership proved much more difficult. Last year, as Poland and Hungary began the process of emancipation from Soviet influence and East Germany showed signs of internal collapse, the conspirators decided they had to act. Their operation was scheduled for November 17, the 50th anniversary of the shooting by German troops of a Czech student, Jan Opletal.

The plan called for the simulation of the death of a student at the hands of the riot police. The conspirators calculated that this echo of the Nazi past would arouse such public anger that Messrs Jakes and Stepan would be forced out of office. Here, perhaps, the story appears to veer off into melodrama, yet the commission's information comes from someone who might be expected to know: the StB officer who played the part of the corpse. Lieutenant Lukas Zivcak had infiltrated the student leadership as part of Operation Wedge. When the demonstrators gathered at Jan Opletal's grave in Vysehrad cemetery on the afternoon of November 17, Zivcak's was one of the voices advocating a march on the city centre; and when the crowd marched along the embankment beside the Vltava, he led them towards Wenceslas Square.

The police had turned Narodni Street into a trap from which there was no exit. In the attack on the demonstrators there were 561 casualties and one faked death.

In the violence and confusion Lieutenant Zivcak fell to the ground and his body was covered with a blanket. An unmarked ambulance took him away. Rumours of the death spread quickly. A woman who has since disappeared went to the distinguished Catholic layman and Charter 77 signatory, Mr Vaclav Benda, and told him the dead man was Martin Smid from the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics at the university: a friend of hers since childhood. Mr Benda told his close associate in Charter 77, Mr Petr Uhl, who ran an information service for foreign journalists. Mr Uhl told the BBC and the Voice of America. There were two Martin Smids studying at the Faculty. One was away at the time. The other had been at the demonstration, but went on television to show that he was uninjured. The police arrested Mr Uhl for spreading false rumours. But by now the anger of tens of thousands of ordinary people had been aroused. The demonstrators grew by the day, until Mr Jakes and Mr Stepan were forced to resign.

Dr Hulik's committee has established that on the night of the November 17 demonstration General Lorenc dined at an StB safe house in Prague with General Teslenko, the KGB's head of station in the city, and with the deputy chairman of the KGB, General Viktor Grushko, who had flown in from Moscow three days before. Their meal was interrupted by 25 telephone calls. At the end Lorenc and Grushko drove to the StB's operational headquarters, where they spent much of the night. The next morning General

Grushko returned to Moscow. Dr Hulik is convinced that the Soviet leadership was involved in the conspiracy. General Grushko's immediate superior is General Kryuchkov, a member of Mr Gorbachov's Politburo.

The twin objectives of the conspiracy had now been achieved: Jakes had gone, the opposition was penetrated. But it soon became clear that the plot was based on a central miscalculation. Its authors had assumed that the people would be satisfied with a return to the reform communism of 1968. They had chosen as their candidate for the new party leadership one of the most respected men from the Prague Spring: Mr Zdenek Mlynar, a leading figure in Dubcek's Central Committee. He was purged in 1969, had signed Charter 77 and lived in exile in Vienna. He was also a friend of Mr Gorbachov; they had been law students in Moscow.

Mr Mlynar paid a brief visit to Prague in November, during which he met a leading conspirator and two members of the Soviet Central Committee. At this point the plot collapsed. Mr Mlynar had no interest in leading the Communist Party. The people of Czechoslovakia wanted nothing to do with reform communism. Mr Havel and Civic Forum were swept into government on an immense wave of public enthusiasm, the beneficiaries of an unlikely plot by their worst enemies.

John Simpson is Foreign Affairs Editor of the BBC. The documentary, Czech-Mate, will be shown on BBC2 tonight at 8.10.

Gorbachov faces angry welcome by emigrés

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

AS THOUSANDS of Baltic Americans began arriving in Washington yesterday for four days of high-profile summit demonstrations, Lithuania's senior foreign diplomat warned of the "catastrophe" facing his homeland.

Arriving by the coachload from across America, and supported by other Eastern bloc emigrés, the protesters intend to vent their displeasure over President Gorbachov's crackdown on Lithuania in a series of rallies and vigils outside the White House, the Capitol and the Soviet Embassy.

Mr Stasys Lozoraitis, the Lithuanian chargé d'affaires in Washington, said he hoped the demonstrations would be peaceful, but pointed out that nothing had come from five years of peaceful protest in Lithuania itself. At a press conference yesterday, Mr Lozoraitis predicted that his country could survive Moscow's economic blockade for just one more month before it collapsed – and even then it would choose outright occupation by Moscow rather than renounce its declaration of independence.

He said that 200,000 Lithuanians had already lost their jobs because of the blockade. Heavy oil for agriculture was almost exhausted, as was petrol and many raw materials. Medicines, too, were running out. Lithuania had survived as long as it had only because of the determination and ingenuity of its people, but "a very, very tragic situation" was developing.

Asked what he hoped for from the summit, Mr Lozoraitis called on President Bush to press Mr Gorbachov to lift the economic blockade, to move towards a recognition of Lithuanian sovereignty, and to agree to genuine negotiations with the Lithuanians.

He was doubtful, however, about how far Mr Bush was prepared to push Lithuania's cause, and criticized Washington's past reluctance to put pressure on Moscow. This, he said, had sent misleading signals to Soviet hardliners and military leaders, who were able to argue that Mr Gorbachov could do what he



President Gorbachov, showing no sign of strain from his domestic troubles, striding out at Moscow airport to board a plane bound for Canada

Unrest at home may strengthen Moscow's hand in Washington

From PETER STOTHARD, US EDITOR, IN WASHINGTON

SOME US negotiators fear that growing uncertainties surrounding President Gorbachov's hold on power will enable the Soviet side to force summit concessions from President Bush. "There is undoubtedly a sense that we can't send him home empty-handed," said one State Department official yesterday, "and we may put more into his hands than we really want to."

Mr James Baker, the Secretary of State, has used some undiplomatic language this week in referring to the possible overthrow of the Soviet leader and the succession that might follow. Conservative critics were at first pleased at what they saw as growing realism from Mr Baker. But now, they fear that Mr Gorbachov's problems may become part of Mr Baker's weaponry to force new concessions on strategic and conventional force cuts.

At the centre of US strategic concerns is Moscow's demand to continue modernizing its heavy SS-18 missiles after their numbers have been cut. On the diplomatic side, the main problem is in finding a way for the Soviet Union out

of the stalemate caused by the disagreement about a united Germany's status in Nato. The so-called "sherpa" groups of advance negotiators have reportedly made little progress so far.

The US side, led by the Administration's top arms control specialist, Mr Reginald Bartholomew, has spent three days with their Soviet counterparts, led by Mr Viktor Karlov. Their main aim is still to allow a declaration for the summitaries, based on a draft treaty, that all obstacles to a full Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (Start) have been overcome.

American officials have expressed satisfaction that the deal will be brought out for signature depends on political decisions to be made at the summit level alone. US officials believe that Mr Gorbachov is prepared for a postponement of trade benefits in order to avoid too intrusive a US investigation of the Lithuanian embassy.

Officials cite the decision to postpone the Soviet parliamentary debate on new emigration laws which are part of the US preconditions for granting the Soviet Union most favoured nation trade

status. Even if these had been passed President Bush would have been under pressure to withhold trade liberalization at least until the embargo on essential supplies to Lithuania was lifted.

By not passing the law, Mr Gorbachov has made it easier to keep Lithuania off the detailed agenda. The Soviet advance party, talking to the press in Washington, has stressed several times that Lithuania is a wholly Soviet domestic issue.

President Bush, for public consumption at least, has said that he will not allow the problems of the Baltic states to be "swept under the carpet". US preparatory work is also continuing on the issues of a neutral government for Afghanistan, cutting Soviet aid for Cuba and the rebels in El Salvador and the Soviet backing for Angola's destabilization of Namibia.

The danger of a nuclear conflict between India and Pakistan over Kashmir is rising up the regional agenda. The American side is not confident, however, that it can shift Mr Gorbachov into putting pressure on his Indian allies.

Troubled times for both host and guest

From JOHN BEST
IN OTTAWA

PRESIDENT Gorbachov, who flew into Ottawa for a two-day official visit, has something in common with his host, Mr Brian Mulroney. The Soviet President and the Canadian Prime Minister both rule nations torn by internal discord.

Plagued by troubles in the Soviet republics, Mr Gorbachov's miseries are certain to be compounded by the election of Mr Boris Yeltsin as President of the Russian Federation. Mr Mulroney's problem is the growth of separatism in the French-speaking province of Quebec, resulting from a renewed outbreak of hostilities over the Canadian Constitution.

Instead of the Yeltsin phenomenon, the thorns in the side of the Canadian Prime Minister are three provincial premiers. A deadline of June 23 has been set by which all 10 provinces have to ratify the Meech Lake accord, bringing Quebec, which has a quarter of Canada's 25 million population, into the national constitution. Quebec has been isolated from the rest of the country, constitutionally speaking, since 1982.

Yet Mr Clyde Wells, Mr Frank McKenna and Mr Gary Filmon, the premiers of Newfoundland, New Brunswick and Manitoba respectively, still refuse to ratify the accord. Among other things, they are nervous about the implications of a provision in the Meech Lake accord which would recognize Quebec as a "distinct society" within Canada.

On the very eve of Mr Gorbachov's visit, Mr Mulroney concluded a whirlwind round of one-on-one meetings in Ottawa with all the premiers, designed to lay the groundwork for a compromise. He appears to have had limited success. Now he is considering calling a meeting of the 11 prime ministers in a last-ditch effort to save Meech Lake.

Some observers believe that Canada's own serious problems in regard to national unity will undermine the impact of Mr Mulroney's planned intervention with Mr Gorbachov on behalf of the Baltic republics.

Hurd attacks Jewish settlement

By ANDREW MC EWEN IN LONDON AND ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

MR DOUGLAS Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday attacked the settlement in the occupied territories and called for dialogue between Palestinians and Israelis. His remarks on the eve of a visit to Jordan and Saudi Arabia will be seen in the Arab world as criticism of Jerusalems.

Mr Hurd said the cause of the tension "lies in the unjust and unsustainable position in the occupied territories which could be made worse by the settlement of Jews."

While Soviet Jews had a right to leave the Soviet Union, "it is not a right to settle in other people's lands in the occupied territories and ... East Jerusalem". He also criticized the lack of dialogue between Israel and Palestinians. "It is really not acceptable to say that it is not possible for the Israelis to sit down with Palestinians."

Mr Hurd is to hold talks with King Husain in Amman

on Thursday, and in a speech later is expected to describe the settlements in the occupied territories as "unacceptable and illegal". However, in his talk with the King, the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister, he will emphasize the need to tone down public statements on the situation. There were fierce verbal attacks on Israel by Arab leaders at their summit in Baghdad, prompted by murmur of Palestinians.

Mr Hurd's remarks did not mark a change of policy, but the timing was intended to put pressure on Israel.

Meanwhile, Warsaw has put its airport on anti-terrorist alert after the threatening declarations adopted at the Arab League summit in Baghdad against Soviet Jewish emigration using the Polish capital as a transit point.

Since Israel established diplomatic relations with the new European democracies – Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia – complex manoeuvring has been under way to ferry thousands of Soviet Jews to Israel. The Palestinians and their supporters, claiming that Israel is using the influx of Jews to populate the occupied West Bank, are furious with the East European states.

The Soviet Union has no diplomatic ties with Israel and there are no direct flights between Moscow and Tel Aviv, Romania, which was the only communist state not to break off diplomatic relations with Israel, was the traditional link between Moscow and Tel Aviv, but Bucharest airport is no longer regarded as a secure transit point by the Israelis.

The Hungarian Malev airline had received several bomb threats when it tried to launch an airift operation earlier this year and, for a while, interrupted its charter services to Tel Aviv. Warsaw has been gearing up for a big airift next month. At the



Soviet Jewish immigrants disembarking joyfully at Ben Gurion airport after their flight from eastern Europe

Berlin's recruits fall out of step

From ANNE McELVOY
IN LEHNITZ

OUTSIDE the Volksarmee base in Lehnitz, north of East Berlin, the regimental motto announces itself in comic defiance of changed times: "Our relationship with the Soviet Union – the touchstone of our revolutionary activity."

The new recruits to the First Artillery Regiment "Rudolph Gypner" look distinctly unwilling to defend the failed revolution, or anything else for that matter, as they slouch back from their swearing-in ceremony complaining that their uniforms are too tight and their boots are killing them.

The current intake of conscripts is the first to have had the choice of non-military service when they were called up at the beginning of the year. They are also the first generation of East German soldiers to enjoy the spoils of military *glasnost* under the new Defence Minister, Herr Rainer Eppelmann, who is something of an oddity even in Eastern Europe – a pacifist vicar who was once imprisoned for his refusal to do national service.

The new recruits are allowed to return home every night instead of once a week, and freed from the mandatory wearing of uniform at all times which used to make East Germany look as if it were under constant occupation by its own troops. The liberalizations were introduced in the certain knowledge that without them the Army would have even more perilously under-staffed than it already is. The mass exodus of young people last year, the defection of disgruntled troops to the West German Army and Herr Eppelmann's cuts have left Lehnitz with only a third of its former staff.

Private Martin Riedel, a factory worker, aged 22, said that he chose national service because it would have taken longer to find a civil alternative and he "just wanted to get it over with". He berated the poor quality of food and the officers, "turncoats every one of them: they all stood up for the regime and now they are preaching preparation for German unity". No, he felt no sense of identity with the Army. "It's just a transition, isn't it?"

His neighbour, Private Roland Bahr, was cannier in his reasoning. He said he chose the Army because East German non-military service was not recognized by West Germany, and he was scared of being called up again after reunification.

All are dissatisfied with their low salary of 250 Marks (£90) a month but happy at their treatment. "My mates who were in before said that the officers were treated like gods. We can argue with ours," says Private Bahr.

The sternest discipline which made the Volksarmee the envied jewel in the Warsaw Pact crown is in disarray. One feels almost sorry for the officers. At some bases they complain that they cannot persuade their men to get up in the mornings if it is raining.

Captain Peter Bley said that morale was high because conditions are more liberal than ever before, but motivation is elusive. "Their first question is: 'Why is there still an East German army when everything is collapsing?' and their second is: 'Who are we supposed to be fighting?' We were all party members – we had to be to get our posts, and most of us believed in the defence of socialism. That is hard for this generation to accept."

Yeltsin win is lesson in political survival

From RICHARD OWEN IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Gorbachov's plane was already in the air bound for Canada and America yesterday when the news came through that Mr Boris Yeltsin, Mr Gorbachov's fiercest critic, had triumphed in becoming President of the Russian Federation. It was hardly the farewell present the Soviet leader wanted.

Mr Yeltsin's election gives him control of the fate of 145 million people and the heartland of the Soviet Union, territory stretching from Finland to the Bering Straits, opposite Alaska, the most northerly of the United States. His election also gives Mr Yeltsin, aged 59, a platform from which to challenge Mr Gorbachov and his reform "half measures".

Mr Yeltsin's triumph was an astonishing political comeback. In *Against the Grain*, his autobiography, Mr Yeltsin recalls that, when he was pushed out of the Politburo three years ago, Mr Gorbachov told me to bear in mind that

Iran warms to peace overtures

BAGHDAD — In a swift response to Iraq's new peace overtures, Iran yesterday said it would welcome a meeting between President Rafsanjani and President Saddam Hussein if Baghdad gave proof of its sincerity (Juan Carlos Guimucio writes).

Tehran's remarkably agreeable stand came in a statement by Mr Mehdi Karroubi, President of the Iranian Parliament, 24 hours after the Iraqi leader said that Baghdad always wanted peace and that Iraq's peaceful intentions were illustrated by a recent exchange of letters with Iran.

Visas scrapped

Britain and East Germany agreed yesterday to abolish visa requirements between the two countries.

Aid budget cut

Geneva — The UN High Commissioner for Refugees has been forced to slash its current programme budget by \$44 million, so "eliminating all but life-saving activities", because of the shortfall in contributions.

Nuclear test

Stockholm — Seismic signals from a presumed underground nuclear explosion at Lop Nur in north-west China have been recorded in Sweden, the Swedish Defence Research Establishment said. (Reuter)

New premier

Taipei — Taiwan's Parliament approved the appointment of Mr Hau Pei-tsun as Prime Minister after a day of violent protests. (Reuter)

Royal dissent

Oslo — Norway decided that future royal sons will no longer have automatic first right to the throne. (Reuter)

Election victory

Rosario — Dominica's Freedom Party led by the conservative Prime Minister Miss Eugenia Charles was returned to power in general elections. (AFP)

Nepal parties

Kathmandu — Two former Prime Ministers of Nepal, Mr Surya Bahadur Thapa and Mr Lokendra Bahadur Chand, both once activists of Nepal's parties' *panchayat* system, announced the creation of two separate political parties. (AFP)

he was not going to let me back into politics". Mr Yeltsin adds: "It did not occur to him that he had created and put in motion a set of democratic processes under which the words of the General Secretary had ceased to be the word of a dictator ... the people might think otherwise."

The people did think otherwise, and yesterday the Russian parliament bowed to overwhelming popular pressure. Mr Yeltsin is regarded by many as almost too candid and too prone to emotion, but he radiates authority and charisma. "The people have put their trust in him," said one ecstatic Muscovite waving the flag of Old Russia outside the Kremlin. There was not a hammer and sickle in sight. "If he repays our trust he could be Soviet president before long," he added.

After being sacked as party boss in Moscow for his populist style, which involved taking buses with ordinary workers and personally investigating corruption, Mr Yeltsin was given a lowly job as deputy chairman of the party's construction committee.

Then, just more than a year ago, despite attempts to block his nomination, Mr Yeltsin was elected by an overwhelming majority to the Supreme Soviet, the Soviet Parliament, in the first free election for 70 years.

Shortly afterwards a campaign against him began in the Soviet press, which accused him of having drunk too much on a tour of America and ridiculed him for claiming that somebody tried to kill him by pushing him into the Moscow river (an episode he has still not satisfactorily explained).

Yet ordinary people continued to admire him for his blunt style and his forthright opposition to decades of Soviet misrule. As Mr Yeltsin has himself observed, his emergence as a reformist seems to bear little relation to his origins as the son of a collective farmer in the Urals, or his orthodox career as a construction engineer and subsequently as a party apparatchik of the kind he now despises.

"How is it that a system perfected over the years, specifically designed to select only people of a certain type, should have suddenly failed so badly as to choose Yeltsin?" he once asked.

Mr Yeltsin was born on February 1, 1931 in the village of Butko in the Sverdlovsk region in the southern Urals. His father, by his own account, was "rough and quick-tempered" just as his grandfather had been, and "no doubt they passed these characteristics on to me". Mr Yeltsin admits to a rebellious childhood, during which he often played pranks. He studied construction engineering at the Urals Polytechnic, and joined the Communist Party in 1961.

He became a full-time party official in 1968 in Sverdlovsk (formerly Ekaterinburg), and was made a Central Committee secretary in Moscow in 1983, when Mr Gorbachov brought him to the Soviet capital to help launch a new campaign of reform after the stagnation of earlier regimes. Mr Yeltsin became head of the party in the city of Moscow in late 1985, and from 1986 to 1987 was a non-voting member of the Politburo.

Then came his abrupt dismissal, followed by his return as a deputy to the Supreme Soviet in 1989 and to the Russian Federation parliament in the spring of this year as a representative from Sverdlovsk.

Electoral benefits, page 10

Walesa turns tables on striking rail workers

From REUTER IN WARSAW

MR LECH Walesa, the Solidarity leader, branded former communist union leaders as gangsters and demagogues, as he persuaded strikers to call off a national rail strike, Polish newspapers reported yesterday.

The Solidarity daily *Gazeta Wyborcza* carried a dramatic account of Mr Walesa's midnight dash to the coastal city of Gdansk on Sunday, where he persuaded strike leaders and former communist unionists backing them to suspend their protest. The paper said Walesa told the former communists that they deserved to be dragged away by Zomo riot police — the force used to stamp out Solidarity strikes and protests in the 1980s.

"Zomo should drag you out of here, as it dragged me out when you were ruling, and

Coalition formed to smooth path of reunification

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

WEST Germany's Government and opposition yesterday formed an uncomfortable "grand coalition". Publicly, its task is to negotiate additional improvements to the treaty on economic, currency and social union between the two Germanies, but its real, unpublished, purpose is to allow both sides to score electoral points in the run-up to the general election in December.

In the next few weeks experts from both sides will meet in three special committees to develop ideas for protecting East Germany from the environmental and social consequences of currency union, with the agreed ideas then passed to the parties' leaderships for approval.

The coalition was formed after a rare political meeting between Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor and leader of the Christian Democrats, and Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, leader of the opposition Social Democrat. Not present was the convalescent Herr Oskar Lafontaine, the Social Democrats' designated candidate to stand against Herr Kohl next December, who has sent shock waves through his party by insisting on rejecting the economic treaty in its present



Taste of friendship: The Princess Royal yesterday sampling goats' milk from a bowl proffered as a traditional sign of welcome by a tribal elder in the Siberian village of Arbizhil in the Buryat autonomous republic. The Princess, who is in the Soviet Union on an official tour, the first by a member of the royal family, was apparently ignorant of the fact that the traditional tribal response is to sprinkle the milk on to the ground

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WE'RE FLYING BETTER THAN EVER

Does Labour need Owen?

Martin Jacques

David Owen is thinking aloud again, pondering his future and making overtures to Labour. Such musings are not new. Indeed, they have become a minor subplot of Mrs Thatcher's third term. What he says, though, should be taken at face value. He is a man in a corner with very little to offer. He does not know what to do, because it is not clear what he can do.

His best bet is some arrangement with the Labour Party. The problem is that there is little he can do for it. Undoubtedly his blessing would set the seal on Labour's move into the centre — but he has virtually done that already. Moreover, many of the public already believe that Labour has been transformed. Labour is unlikely to risk any gesture towards him for so little reward, when he could cause a lot of hassle. That is not how things work, certainly not in the world of Labour politics. David Owen, it seems, is on his way out of politics altogether, following his erstwhile colleagues in the Gang of Four.

There is, of course, a deep irony here. The split in the Labour Party in 1981 and the formation of the SDP radically changed the shape of British politics — but not the way the protagonists intended. The third force did not usurp Labour's place as the second party. Instead it transformed it. The legacy of 1981 is the new-model Labour Party.

The usual measure of the SDP's impact is the shift in Labour's policies. Compare Labour's policy review with the Alliance manifesto in 1983. The resemblance is uncanny. On Europe, the free market, defence and trade union legislation, Labour has aped the Alliance. But the resemblance does not explain the causal process. The ways of the world are far more complicated than such resemblances suggest.

The split in 1981 was a necessary condition for Labour's subsequent transformation. It allowed a new internal configuration. With the departure of a large section of the right, the left-wing was, for the first time, in the ascendant. But soon it became divided. The revolution that ensued after 1983 was led by one part of it, the soft left. But Kinnock and Co could never have occupied this ground had it not been for the 1981 split.

The legacy was a clean slate. The ritualized divisions and intense factionalism of the previous decade no longer had any meaning. If the split had not taken place, the dominance of the centre-right would have continued, the left would have remained united, the degree of political movement would have been far less, and a more Wilsonian leadership would have resulted.

...and moreover

CRAIG BROWN

On July 7, 1927, the eve of the Lord's cricket match against Harrow, J.M. Barrie, creator of *Peter Pan*, gave a speech at Eton College. A month earlier, the Provost of Eton, M.R. James, had challenged him over lunch to disprove the "terrible indictment" that James Hook, the pirate captain, "was a great Etonian but not a good one".

Barrie believed Hook to be quite the opposite — a good Etonian but not a great one — and in his speech he set out to prove it. The speech is little known, but, in the light of yesterday's festivities, might serve as an awful lesson to many Etonians unable to shake off their past.

In this speech, Barrie revealed many details of Captain Hook's Eton career that were not mentioned in the play. Oddly enough, he said, Hook had been a dry bob at Eton, hating the touch of water, a hatred that was to beset him throughout his adult life. His contemporaries recalled a glutinous boy. Barrie claimed to have been told by one that Hook "oozed so unpleasantly through his clothes, that in the Wall game, if you pushed him against the wall you smeared it with him." He was a member of the Eton Society, or Pop, as it is better known, though Barrie acknowledged that "Hook's election was a great surprise to other members", some of whom felt that he "must have manipulated the ballot box".

Here begins the mystery. Barrie records that the page in the books of the society recording Hook's election had been mysteriously destroyed. At first, Barrie blamed this either on autograph hunters or on the Eton authorities, who might have thought "his subsequent career (meteoric as it was) reflected no credit on the school". In fact, neither was the case.

A month or two before Hook's death in the jaws of a crocodile, a Mr G.F.T. Jasparin, an Old Etonian given to wandering Eton's streets, spotted "a shadowy figure sitting motionless on the college wall" in Pop uniform, recognizable by his long curly "like black candles about to melt" and by the iron hook that protruded from the sleeve of his right arm. "I do not

merely mean that Etonian was written all over him," Barrie quoted Jasparin as saying, "there was something even more than that, as if... he was two Etonians rolled by the magnanimous God into one."

Jasparin felt a strong sense of melancholy exuding from this figure. "It was mournfully obvious that he was gazing with peeled eyes through the darkness of his present to the innocence of his past, from the monster he had become on the Spanish Main to the person he had been at Eton, and the effect was heightened by the unclean tears that crawled down his face."

A passing policeman, seeing this solitary figure on the wall, asked him if he was an OE. "No," said Hook. Barrie explains this denial as being "all he could do for the honour of the school".

Jasparin then lost sight of Hook, but others observed him wandering, ghost-like, around Dutchman's and Agar's Plough. At some time after midnight, Hook managed to break into the premises of the Eton Society, there to destroy all evidence that he had once been a member.

"To obliterate the memory of himself from the tabernacle he had fouled was all this erring son of Eton could do for his beloved," Barrie explained, adding, "In that one moment was he not a good Etonian?"

Captain James Hook left his few meagre possessions to the school. These included, said Barrie, hundreds of copies, much-thumbed, of the *Eton Chronicle*, to which he had been a faithful subscriber throughout his years of piracy. (This is curiously reminiscent of that other Etonian black sheep, Guy Burgess, upon whose death a dozen Old Etonian ties were found in a drawer of his Moscow flat). The governors, mindful of any scandal, refused the legacy.

If the above account had been printed yesterday, the return of many a guilt-ridden Etonian might have been prevented. I suspect, however, that if the president of the Eton Society finds time to peruse his logbook this morning, he may find that quite a number of the more recent pages have, quite inexplicably, vanished overnight.

Robert Service thinks co-operation is Gorbachov's best response to the newly-elected Yeltsin

Taming Russia's headlong reformer

Boris Yeltsin's election as president of the Russian republic within the Soviet Union is yet another problem in a week of crises for Mikhail Gorbachov. The list of problems has grown daily: Armenia, panic buying in Moscow, German reunification, and now, not for the first time, Yeltsin.

Yeltsin's success puts an end to what might be called Gorbachov's Gaulist gambit. De Gaulle aimed to place the French president above party-political struggles and strove for a strong communion between president and people, implying that formal institutions were an impediment to this end. Politics was treated as a grubby trade and, if a policy required the sanction of popular assent, a referendum would be called. Friends of Gorbachov have indicated that he has paid attention to French presidential methods; and, in the first three months of this year, he made a clear effort as president to rise above both party and government. He continued to humiliate the party and its personnel even though it was they who put him in power in 1985. Like de

Gaulle, he "astonished them with his ingratuity", repeatedly rubbishing the party's actions since the mid-1920s and downgrading its ideology. Simultaneously, he has sought a more elevated personal authority.

Following his confirmation as president (altering the constitution in the process, a Gaulist hallmark) he surrounded himself with hand-picked advisers in a Presidential Council. Some came from the party's Politburo, but several party leaders — notably Yegor Ligachev — were excluded. While his prime minister, Nikolai Ryzhkov, was included, Gorbachov did little to reward him when Ryzhkov was attacked over his government's record by speakers at the Congress of People's Deputies earlier this year.

But Gorbachov's ambitious strategy quickly fell apart. Last week's announcement that a referendum would be held on food price increases was designed to prepare the way for popularly-sanctioned economic reforms. The people were to be consulted by the president. The immediate result was panic buying; and Boris

Yeltsin, who was told by Gorbachov in 1987 that his political career was dead, has come back, Lazarus-like, into the reckoning.

The brief Gaulist interlude is over. The proposed justification for Gorbachov's extensive presidential powers was that the Soviet Union was in danger of shipwreck and needed a strong arm at the tiller. At the Congress of People's Deputies, several of Gorbachov's critics approved his confirmation as president without a preliminary universal-suffrage election. They did so on the grounds that the country faced civil war, and that a strong president could push through the radical economic reforms which were vital in themselves and would assist in defusing other problems, domestic and international.

But Gorbachov drew back from the brink, proposing only half-measures for the economy. Even those, however, have reduced Moscow shops to chaos. Although Gorbachov has a high reputation in the West as a manipulator of Soviet public opinion, it is largely undeserved. In reality he is good at public relations, at putting his

case; but he has been poor at gauging the Soviet popular mood. His recent misjudgement is the latest vivid example.

His other mistake as the difficulties of his presidential role became apparent in April and May, was to alienate fellow political reformers in his own party. He declared that "democratization" should have limits and that there were to be no "factions" in the party. Once the party line was established, it was to be accepted by everyone. Furthermore, the abandonment of the party's constitutionally-guaranteed monopoly of power was not intended to lead to a multi-party parliamentary free-for-all. Gorbachov has been defending the Leninist party's "vanguard role".

It is hard to understand how he thinks he can reconcile such a position, practically and intellectually, with the multi-party politics emerging in the Soviet Union. He now has to live with the election to the Russian republic's presidency of a radical whom he has spurned.

Yeltsin wants to move faster towards a market economy and to

allow easier secession from the Soviet Union for discontented national republics. He is admired by Muscovites for the campaigns against corruption he pursued when he was party leader in the city. His rallies fill whole parks.

His claim that any economic reforms should not begin with financial devices that hit the ordinary Soviet consumer evokes widespread sympathy. But he has yet to say precisely how he would set about implementing reforms if he, and not Mr Gorbachov, were Soviet president. The Yeltsin programme has not been made public. Perhaps it does not exist.

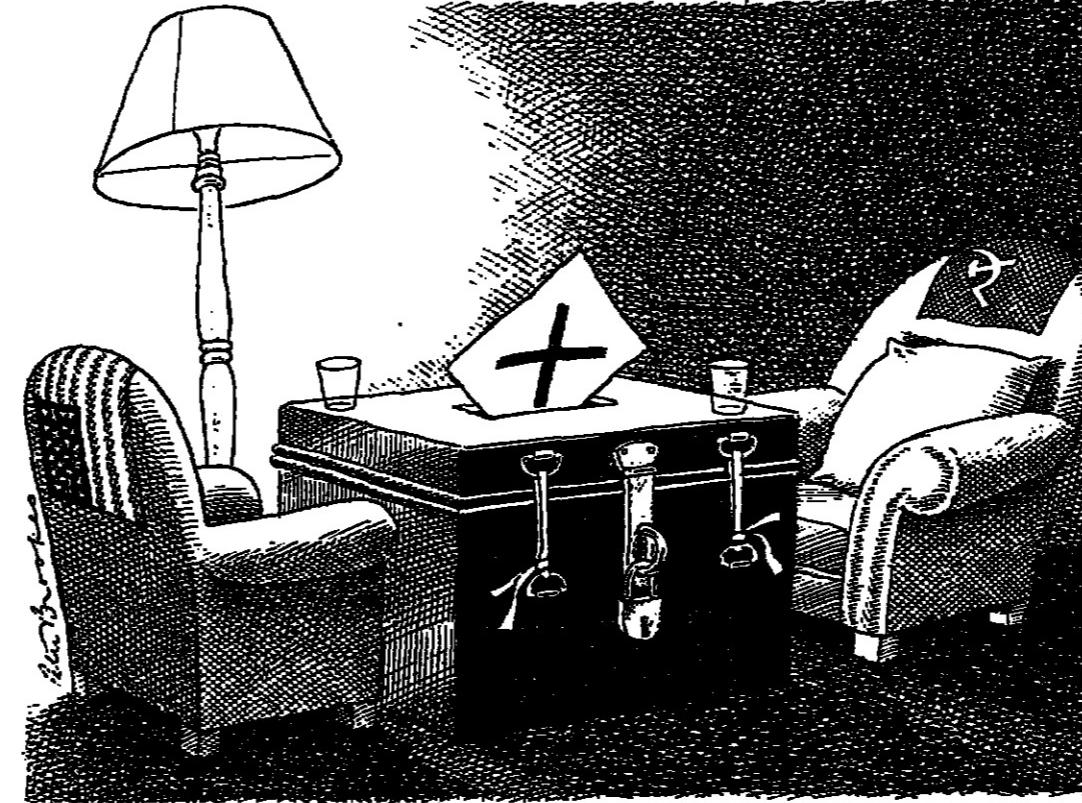
Mr Gorbachov's best means of taming his rival is to make peace with him. Yeltsin has to be deprived of his soap-box pedestal and martyr's crown. The two men have the ability to ruin each other.

If Gorbachov cannot play the role of a Soviet de Gaulle, Yeltsin should not fool himself into thinking that he can successfully take the part.

The author is Reader in Russian History at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, London University.

Scale the summit and win esteem where it counts

Peter Stothard, in Washington, sees domestic voters on both sides the principal target of this week's talks



one, although like that clever French attempt to frighten the English, Eisenhower's gesture was something of a failure: the US side mumbled diffidently about the "economic humanism" of capitalism and Mr Khrushchev snapped back that "only the grave can correct a hunchback".

Conservative critics of the summit process, worn down by America's seemingly endless compromises on arms control, are still professing the virtues of showing Mr Gorbachov the fruits of a free society. The Soviet leader has disappointed them by his limited itinerary, but there is hope that he may learn some lessons even in his chosen venue on the Minnesota farm belt, Democratic territory that is far from hardline capitalist.

A second argument for super-power summits is the great political benefit they bestow. President Gorbachov has a huge need to show himself as an international asset to the hungry shoppers and economic malcontents at home. And there are

millions of American votes at stake, too.

The White House had hoped that Mr Gorbachov would perhaps make a mid-term election-year tour of Republican marginalia. Indeed, the only conservative Republicans opposed to the tour next week are those in Minnesota itself, where the benefits will assuredly go to his Democrat hosts.

The world will not hang on every summit move this week, as it did during the Kennedy-Khrushchev encounter in 1961. When tension was high, humiliation was always a possibility, and American politicians took a risk by sharing the summit table. But the better the international climate, the safer is the supply of votes.

Such risks as remain can be controlled by White House "spin doctors" to whom manipulating expectations is as automatic as breathing. Deliberately conflicting signals are given about whether, for example, a Start treaty on reducing long-range nuclear mis-

siles is to be initiated in draft, agreed in principle or given some other perverse kiss of diplomatic life. The aim is to confuse the American people and the Soviet negotiators — in that order.

The electoral opportunities of summits are close to President Bush's heart. He is not being wholly cynical. He genuinely believes that world leaders can be members of the same club, and that people who eat the same food and exchange jokes are less likely to go home and nuke each other — also more likely to help each other at the polls.

Confidence in the club members needs to be constantly renewed, and here again the summit process is better than irregular peace conferences and the formality of state occasions. In 1987, Mr Gorbachov gave Mr Bush a close-up view of his style by leaping out of his car to pump hands among the crowds on Connecticut Avenue. The bond was sealed at the informal Malta summit when the Soviet leader amiably discussed

slimming with the presidential press secretary who a few months before had called him a "drug-store cowboy".

Mr Gorbachov is now judged to be "for real", joining Chancellor Kohl, Mrs Thatcher and Toshiki Kaifu, the Japanese prime minister, in winning this ultimate Bush accolade. It has been said here (only just in jest) that if George Bush sees his role as helping to re-elect every ailing member of this club, he will soon be as big a threat to national democracy as Stalin.

Some on the right still wish that summits — particularly arms control summits — did not exist. They point out that the need to sign agreements at regular intervals inevitably forces compromise, that American negotiators are the more natural compromisers, and that James Baker, the Secretary of State, is the most natural compromiser of all.

The traditional Soviet variation on Mr Bush's "getting-to-know-you" theme consists not so much of club loyalty as on the cruder game of ascertaining how much you can push your opposite number around. Mr Bush constantly assures conservatives that he is no push-over for Gorbachov, but not all are convinced.

Modern summits certainly encourage the seizing of short-term opportunities. Mr Baker has made it clear that even given the uncertainties about Mr Gorbachov's survival, and successor, he would rather have a Start treaty signed and delivered than the promise of a free Lithuania. Small wonder that there is an incipient intellectual fashion here for rejecting the notion of an interdependent world run by diplomats, in favour of the more ancient practice of amorality ganging between the powerful.

But most people feel comfortable with regular talks. Summits are infinitely variable events, flattering to the participants and reassuring to the neighbours. The brutal battle of wits between Mr Reagan and Mr Gorbachov at Reykjavik is a salutary reminder that blood can still be drawn.

Whatever the sceptics may say, the current hope in the White House is that such summits will become part of the international landscape, to be climbed in future simply because they are there.

Marcantonio) and Martin Sorrell (head of the WPP group). "Cambridge is an academic brand," says Wight, "set to compete against other academic brands. It's a communication being not just a pile of bricks and mortar."

But after 700 years without such advice, what is it that the "brand" has not achieved through its academic reputation and which only the professionals can provide? The Development Office says naturally proclaims Cambridge's manifold qualities, but says it still needs selling. The first step is likely to involve direct marketing aimed at graduates, to encourage donations, with TV advertising to follow.

But despite the incongruity of the move, Cambridge has never been a stranger to selling itself. Until 1917, the university was self-financing, and relied heavily on its own fund-raising. But if the new campaign is not entirely unprecedented, the University Development Office concedes that it is unusual. The last such campaign was run in 1899. Heaven knows what marketing men were known as in those days.

● Labour's high command spends much time collecting Militant Tendency documents to scour for names suitable for expulsion. Here's one it may have overlooked: 11 Militants conveniently listed in the batting order on the scorecard of last week's cricket match against Tribune. Coincidentally, Bob McKee, captain and opening batsman, was expelled by Labour's national executive two days after the match. Although Tribune lost by three wickets, it has promised not to pass the names of McKee's team-mates to Welwyn Road.

More equal than others

The privileges of power that go with Boris Yeltsin's election to the presidency of the Russian Federation would bring blushing to the cheeks of the most rapacious leader in the West. A 24-hour personal bodyguard, chauffeur-driven car, country dacha access to well-stocked shops and the chance of a luxury lifestyle are but a few of the perks on offer. But if Yeltsin accepts them, his mantle of people's champion will start to slip, and could eventually lead to his downfall.

He faces other dilemmas. The bodyguard, if he accepts one, will be provided by the KGB — which only last month was rumoured to have tried to kill him by sabotaging the aircraft taking him to Spain. The story was vigorously denied, but the KGB can have no love for Yeltsin because of his pledge to abolish the entire organization if he is ever in a position to do so.

In his bestselling book *Against the Grain* — the proceeds of which went to charity — Yeltsin was scathing about the perks that go with power. In his previous job as Moscow party chief he won much support by sparing a chauffeur-driven limousine in favour of his own modest car. And he was almost a total stranger to the dacha of which he and his family had exclusive use. It had numerous bedrooms, huge and elegant reception rooms, luxury furniture, tennis courts, saunas, marble paneling, en-suite bathrooms and two "war rooms". Its previous occupant? Mikhail Gorbachov.

the weather are the disturbances of animal life. Geese nesting on the dressing room roof, mating herons, swarming bees, lions roaring from the nearby London Zoo and hedgehogs playing with tin cans under the stage are now all regarded as unavoidable noises off.

Semiotics

Paddy Ashdown has ordered a flashy new logo for the Liberal Democrats in the hope that it will do for his party what the red rose has done for Labour. But his optimism is not shared by all the party faithful, who are expecting more than a mere marketing device to recapture the muddled middle ground of politics from the remains of the SDP. Design consultants Fitch & Co have been called in by the party to revamp the present logo, a gold diamond bearing the words Social and Liberal Democrats. The word Social is naturally disappearing, but any further changes are still secret.

The cost of the final product, expected to be at least £10,000 — which is not much by corporate standards, but a huge sum in Lib Dem circles — has raised eyebrows

among the party's MPs. Sir Cyril Smith for one is highly critical of what he sees as a move towards style rather than substance. "Our party has more important things to worry about than its logo, and I certainly would not spend any money on designing a new one when we have people in the party who could have done the same job." The design will be kept under wraps until the party conference, when it will be unveiled by Ashdown. The brief insists that the design must reflect "the true purpose of the Liberal Democrat Party". That may explain why it is taking so long.

Washing light bluer

Nobody is safe from the attentions of the hardsell merchants, even academics. As part of its attempt to raise £250 million to maintain its pre-eminence as a centre of educational excellence, Cambridge University is the latest to fall prey to advertising. A committee of marketing experts is being set up by the Cambridge Development Office led by graduates Robin Wight (chairman of the advertising agency WCRS Mathews



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

BUSINESS AS USUAL

President Bush has already struck a realistic note before the US-Soviet summit. Rebutting questions about Mr Gorbachov's domestic vulnerability, he described him as a man who "survived" and added that there was little point "trying to figure out how long a leader in any country will be there". One thing is now abundantly clear about East-West summits. Even if the West could contribute to easing the Soviet Union's economic predicament, no Western policy aimed at ensuring stability in Europe can be predicated on the survival either of Mr Gorbachov or of his policies.

Mr Gorbachov failed yesterday to prevent Mr Boris Yeltsin's election as president of the Russian Republic. There is mounting evidence that the main pressure on Mr Gorbachov stems not from military hardliners, but from those seeking to speed up political change. Nor do analogies between the destabilizing impact of the 1919 Versailles Treaty on Weimar Germany, and the risks of "humiliating" the Soviet Union today bear close inspection.

Mr Ryzhkov may have lamented last week that the Government had "no more gold to buy grain". Western bankers are certainly tightening their terms, and Soviet credit ratings have slipped on the London market. But the Soviet Union, unlike inter-war Germany, is rich in resources and immensely strong militarily. There is no reason for the West to succour a giant whose economic wounds are self-inflicted and which is currently trying to bring puny Lithuania to its knees.

The Soviet Union is still the strongest military power in Europe. Even if the Union disintegrated, Mr Yeltsin's Russia itself would retain that status. The "German Question" retains its mesmeric hold on Moscow and will dominate this summit as none since the end of the Second World War. No amount of turbulence within the Soviet Union can divert attention from the central issue of the balance of power in Europe. Mr Gorbachov accepts German reunification, but only on certain conditions. He will ask for "solid international guarantees" that Germany "will always pursue peaceful policies". He insists, publicly, that the Soviet Union views Nato as a symbol of

confrontation and will "never" permit it a leading role in building a new Europe.

But how to take this position forward? Mr Gorbachov's pre-summit formula for German membership in Nato innocuously proposes putting Germany on the same basis as France, as participant in Nato's political machinery but outside its unified command structure. He may appeal to German sentiment by suggesting a ceiling on troop strengths in a united Germany and the removal of all foreign forces and nuclear weapons from German soil.

Bonn has already established its own direct links with the Kremlin, and might well agree to German troop ceilings and even to the removal of nuclear weapons. Western anxiety at the prospect of West Germany's leaders being tempted to stir the shades of Molotov-Ribbentrop and strike their own deal with Moscow may tempt Mr Bush to compromise. But nothing has changed in Soviet military doctrine to justify American acquiescence in the neutralization of Germany. The best that might be offered is a concession on a transitional Soviet presence in East Germany.

Mr Gorbachov has suggested that, if Germany remains in Nato, Moscow would be forced to review its commitment to reducing conventional forces in Europe (CFE). Such a disagreement holding up a CFE treaty would hurt the Soviet Union more than the West. The separate conclusion of a Strategic Arms Reduction treaty would have comparatively little impact on Soviet military spending, estimated to consume a fifth of Soviet national product.

A bilateral summit cannot produce final agreement on Germany's future. But this does not mean that decision on the future balance of power in Europe has shifted irrevocably to Europe. Mr Gorbachov continues publicly to accept that the United States remains a key player in Europe. Mr Bush must leave him in no doubt of this. The old Cold War certainties have become confused, but the Cold War has not finally been laid to rest. Nor will it be until the Soviet Union is a democracy living secure and contented alongside a united Germany.

MISPLACED DEFIANCE

The chairman of the Conservative Party, Mr Kenneth Baker, has been trying to dirty Labour's new moderate image by directing public attention at the association between some Labour backbenchers and the campaign to encourage non-payment of the poll tax. He is only doing his job. Those Labour MPs who flirt with civil disobedience are also doing theirs, by trying to maximize the Government's present poll tax discomfort.

When basic principles collide, a decent and tolerant society will try to make room for those who disagree as to which should prevail. Civil disobedience can be a sensitive barometer of the health of society, giving early warning that the necessary consent from the governed to the government, on which parliamentary democracy ultimately rests, is wearing thin. The Conservative mandate to govern Scotland and to impose on the Scots a tax system which is widely resented as unfair is not so overwhelming that any challenge to it deserves no second thought.

In England and Wales the poll tax is a year younger, and therefore those eager to refuse to pay have not yet had the chance to make their obstinacy public. In due course no doubt some of the local dramas of poll tax collection in Scotland – civic dignitaries having their bank accounts frozen, elderly ladies defying the bailiffs – will also occur south of the border. There should, in principle, be more sympathy with little old ladies than with civic dignitaries, not because the latter should know better but because conscientious objection at its heroic best is a private, even solitary, affair, regardless of public opinion, regardless of the consequences.

The Martin Luthers and Thomas Mores could do no other than stand where they did

MURDER MOST FOUL?

Journalists know that their lives may be in danger when they investigate military secrets. This is especially so in regions such as the Middle East where governments, even when not actually engaged in war, are permanently ready for it. Mr Jonathan Moyle, the British editor of *Defence Helicopter World*, was sufficiently experienced when he embarked on a visit to Chile last March to be aware that he might discover facts about the trade between a wealthy Chilean arms manufacturer, Señor Carlos Cardoen, and his customer, the Iraqi Government, which both parties would prefer to remain unknown. Mr Moyle seems to have taken no unnecessary risks. He broke no laws, entered no prohibited areas, gave no hostages to fortune.

Early on March 31, however, Mr Moyle was found by a chambermaid hanging in the clothes closet of his hotel room in Santiago. A verdict of suicide was pronounced by the police, accepted by the authorities – both Chilean and British – and the case was all but forgotten, except by the dead man's family and friends. Thanks only to the moral courage of the local investigating magistrate, Señor Alejandro Solis, the Moyle file was not closed, despite the evident preference of the Santiago police for a theory of motiveless suicide.

Only after a report was broadcast on May 14 by *Channel 4 News* did the public become aware of the attitude of officials in both countries towards Mr Moyle's death. Since then, more evidence has come to light, strengthening Señor Solis in his doubt that this cheerful and talented young journalist would have killed himself, when he had a probable scoop in the bag and shortly before he was to marry his fiancée.

Señor Solis has persuaded his superiors to involve the Chilean equivalent of Scotland Yard. He may thereby have overcome the reluctance of the local police to question Señor Raúl Montesino, the press spokesman of

Industrias Cardoen SA and the last person known to have seen Mr Moyle alive. This reluctance has a political background. Señor Cardoen is a patron of the new Chilean President, Señor Patricio Aylwin.

The Pinochet era is too recent a memory for the police to have yet acquired the habit of treating powerful allies of the head of state as though they, like everyone else, were subject to the law. The new Government does seem to have grasped the importance of letting justice be seen to be done, regardless of politics.

The Moyle case, however, suggests that Señor Aylwin has a long way to go before his claim that Chile is now unequivocally subject to the rule of law deserves credence. According to the Channel 4 programme, if Mr Moyle's notes – most of which are now thought to have disappeared – were correct in their hypothesis, Señor Cardoen was hoping to export attack helicopters to Iraq. Señor Cardoen's challenge to this is that his helicopter was civilian, and not military, aircraft.

The helicopter itself is based on an American civilian design. Mr Moyle seems to have believed that it could be equipped with a weapons guidance system, Helios, built jointly by Sweden, Britain and the United States. Had Mr Moyle proved his case, all three countries would have been obliged by their own public commitments to stop this profitable trade, so depriving President Saddam Hussein of a powerful ground-attack weapon.

The Foreign Office should heed the Moyle family's protests at the British Embassy's refusal to exert pressure on Chilean authorities to treat the case as one of murder. Those responsible for Jonathan Moyle's death may well have had nothing to do with the firm of Industrias Cardoen SA or its owner. The Iraqis, however, would clearly have had a motive. Few will have confidence in Chilean justice until Jonathan Moyle's death has been thoroughly and impartially investigated.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FUTURE OF GERMANY'S MILITARY POLICY

From the President of the British Atlantic Committee

Sir, Before any unthinking rush to show understanding of and support for President Gorbachov's position on Germany and Nato it is essential to identify clearly what it involves.

For Germany to follow the French example and withdraw from the integrated military structure would mean total German independence and national decision-making in all aspects of military policy; this would imply the re-creation of something like the old-style German General Staff. Might this not lead to a demand in Germany for an independent nuclear capability? Is this what Mr Gorbachov wants? The Poles, Czechs and Hungarians favour full German incorporation in the Nato Alliance presumably to avoid such developments.

On the French model, furthermore, all Nato-integrated headquarters and forces would have to leave German territory. Since there is nowhere else on the Central European mainland for them to go except the Benelux countries, the Alliance would for practical purposes cease to exist.

At a time of growing uncertainty this is a loss which no country in Europe – East or West – can afford, given that Nato has always been dedicated to the establishment

of a stable and secure political order throughout Europe.

Dark threats about a change of Soviet attitude towards the CSCE (Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe) or the Vienna arms reduction talks make sense only if Mr Gorbachov wants to cut off his nose to spite his face. The Soviet Union needs good relations and arms reductions even more than the West does.

"What if the German Government should decide to join the Warsaw Pact?" he asks. The answer surely lies in what he himself said to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg last year:

"Any interference in internal affairs, any attempt to limit the sovereignty of states – both friends and allies or anybody else – are inadmissible".

He has been as good as his word on other fronts: he should be as good as his word on this and abide by a German decision, freely and democratically taken, as we shall all have to do. If his problem is with his own military, it is not for us to "help" him by conceding the point of principle, but by reinforcing his adherence to it.

Yours truly,
JOHN KILLICK, President,
The British Atlantic Committee,
5 St James's Place, SW1.
May 27.

to widen the scheme to other areas.

This work is taking place at a time when the society is celebrating its centenary. A £2 million redevelopment of the Douglas Eyre centre will result in the provision at this ground by the close of this year of two new pavilions, a floodlit artificial football and hockey pitch, nine grass football pitches, two grass hockey pitches, a floodlit multi-games training area to include three tennis courts, two artificial cricket strips, two cricket squares and several cricket nets.

Last winter there was already an average weekly attendance at the centre of 1,300, including schoolchildren.

Yours faithfully,
P. G. NATHAN, Chairman,
The London Playing Fields
Society,
Boston Manor Playing Field,
Boston Gardens,
Brentford, Middlesex.
May 24.

This result is that 400 schoolchildren within the Borough of Waltham Forest have participated in such a scheme covering 23 schools, with the local police taking a leading role. The new relationships established have given the society encouragement

to widen the scheme to other areas.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 29: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visited Eton College to mark the 550th Anniversary of its Foundation and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the Royal County of Berkshire (Mr John Henderson), the Provost of Eton (Lieutenant-Colonel the Lord Charteris of Ascot), and the Headmaster (Dr W E K Anderson).

The Duke of Gloucester (President of the Old Morgan Association) and The Duchess of Gloucester were present.

Her Majesty, in reply to speeches of welcome by the Provost and the Captain of the School (T Cunningham), addressed the boys in the School Chapel.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were subsequently entertained to lunch by the Provost of Eton in College Chapel.

Afterwards Her Majesty and His Royal Highness attended a Service of Thanksgiving in College Chapel.

The Duchess of Grafton, Sir Robert Fellowes and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, a Past President of the Royal Air Forces Association, this evening attended a charity presentation of the film "Reach for the Sky" in aid of the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund's 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain Appeal at the Cannon Cinema, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1.

Brigadier Clive Robertson was in attendance.

CLOTHES HOUSE
May 29: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother visited Eton College this evening to mark the 550th Anniversary of its foundation, and was present at the Fourth of June celebrations.

Ruth, Lady Fermoy and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

Ruth, Lady Fermoy has succeeded Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston as Lady-in-Waiting to Her Majesty.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 29: Princess Alexandra, President of the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind (Sight Savers), this morning opened the WHO Meeting on Prevention of Childhood Blindness, hosted by the International Centre for Eye Health at Moorfields Eye Hospital, London EC1.

Mrs Peter Afia was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
May 29: Princess Alexandra, President of the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind (Sight Savers), this morning opened the WHO Meeting on Prevention of Childhood Blindness, hosted by the International Centre for Eye Health at Moorfields Eye Hospital, London EC1.

Subsequently, His Royal Highness, The Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust, opened the Trust's new Headquarters at Mercantile Chambers, 53 Bothwell Street, Glasgow.

The Princess of Wales visited

the Castlemilk Family Support Group, 121 Castlemilk Drive, Glasgow.

Afterwards, The Prince of Wales, Patron, Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts, accompanied by The Princess of Wales, attended the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts Scotland Awards at the Kelvingrove Art Gallery, Glasgow.

Their Royal Highnesses were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Glasgow (Mrs Susan Baird the Right Hon Lord Provost).

Mrs Anne Beckwith-Smith, Commander, Alpine Watson, RN, and Mr Philip Mackie in attendance.

This evening The Prince of Wales presented the Society of Authors' Annual Awards at the Bookshop House, Whitechapel, SW1.

Mr Peter Westmacott and Mr Richard Arbitor were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 29: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was present this evening at a Gala Performance of the Scottish International Children's Festival at Inverleith Park, Edinburgh.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Lord Lieutenant for the City of Edinburgh (Councillor Eleanor McLaughlin, The Right Hon The Lord Provost).

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon later visited the Royal Botanical Garden, Edinburgh.

Lady Aird was in attendance.

ROYAL HOUSE
May 29: The Duke of Kent this morning opened the Northern Ireland Technology Centre, Belfast, and later, as Colonel, visited the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards at Dungannon, Cookstown, Omagh and Magherin, Northern Ireland.

Captain the Hon Christopher Knollys was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 29: The Prince of Wales and The Princess of Wales visited The Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice, 73 Carlton Place, Glasgow.

Subsequently, His Royal Highness, The Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust, opened the Trust's new Headquarters at Mercantile Chambers, 53 Bothwell Street, Glasgow.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

At very time Jesus cured many people of their sicknesses, death and evil spirits and gave sight to many blind people.
St. Luke 7: 21

BIRTHS

BLOOD - On May 28th, to Sarah (née Payne) and Richard, a son, David Gordon.

BOLTON - On May 29th, at Oxford, to Harold and Robert, a son, Robert.

BONNIE-MACLEAREN - On May 20th, at Oldham Memorial Hospital, to Dennis and Jeanne, a son, Christian William Charles. He was born at 11.30 am Tuesday.

COOPER - On May 26th, in Toronto, Canada, to Lisa (née Cooper) and Anthony, a son, Michael.

DALY - On May 28th, to Mandy (née Fry) and Johnny, a daughter, Rachel Sally Fry.

DAVY - On May 23rd, to John (née South) and Anthony, a daughter, Imogen Mary.

DOBBIN - On May 22nd, to Kate (née Doherty) and Roger, a daughter, Amanda Harriet, a sister for Oliver.

EVERARD - On May 25th, to Michael (née Smith) and Mark, a daughter, Rosanna, a sister for Emma.

FIDUCIA - On May 27th at Whitchurch, Ontario, to Dennis and Tina, a son, (Thomas Arthur Michael), a brother for Suzie, Katie and Linda.

GIBBINS - On May 20th, in Cheltenham, to Sally (née Stevens) and Mark, a son, William, a daughter, Nicholas, a brother for Jack.

HENKETT-HARVEY - On May 27th 1990, at Elstree's Lynn, to Karen and Ron, a son, Ron, and Robyn Constantine Robert, a brother for Augusta.

HENKEL FISHER - On May 22nd, to Liz (née Corrigan) and Peter, a daughter, Linda Margaret.

JONES - On April 18th 1990, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Heather (née Fielden) and Douglas, a son, James (Jack) Edward and Barrie, a son, Alexander David Steven.

LAWRENCE - May 21st to Agnes and Stephen, a daughter, Alexandra Victoria Hervey, a sister to Edward and William.

LAWRENCE - On Thursday May 24th, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Helen (née Fielden) and Douglas, a son, James (Jack) Edward and Barrie, a son, Harry Lance.

MACABE - On May 26th, to Vicki (née Saunders) and Pauline, a daughter, a sister for Alice.

MACHALE - On May 23rd, in Greenwich, Connecticut, to Maureen (née Nesmith) and Joe, a son, Thomas Edward, a brother for Henry, Laura and Maureen.

MCALLUM - On May 24th 1990, to Jane (née Gorrieri) Walker and Angus, a son, Hemish Stewart.

MCINTOSH - On May 21st, to Heather (née Crowe) and John, a daughter, a sister for Amber, Jacobs and Christopher.

MORRATT - On May 27th 1990, to Clare (née Streeton) and Robert, a son, James de Castro Samuel.

NEARY - On May 26th, to Louise (née Darby) and Christopher, a son, Giles Merrick Ferdinand.

MONTGOMERY - On May 27th, to Carol and Richard, a daughter, Rebecca Valerie, a sister for Anna, Henry and David.

PELLE - On May 22nd 1990, to Terence (née O'Farrell) and James, a daughter, Amelie Elizabeth, a sister for Madeline.

REYER - On May 26th, to Julie, widow of Viscount Rutwidge, a son.

STEWART-BOYDKEAN - On May 12th, to Muriel (née Boyd) and Christopher, a daughter, Jessica Naomi, a sister for John and Alison.

STOUT - On May 29th, at the Lindo Wing, St. Mary's Hospital, London, to Tibby (née Carr) and Bobbie, a son, David, and a daughter, a brother for Juliet and Megan.

STUART-GRIEBEL - On May 26th, to Catherine and Jocelyn, twins, Charlotte and Alison.

TURNER - On May 24th, to Caroline (née Lawton) and Jamie, a son, Marcus and Rupert.

WAKELAY - On May 28th, to Rachel (née Penrose) and William, a son, Rupert.

PHILLIPS-COPSON - On May 26th, Richard, son of Lt-Cmdr and Mrs J.C. Phillips of Wellington, Lancashire, and Mrs D.S. Copson of Wednesfield, West Midlands.

DEATHS

BAGNOLD - On May 26th, peacefully in his sleep, Brigadier Ralph Alger Bagnold, OBE, FRGS, soldier, explorer, writer of "Plainsman", father of Stephen and Jane and of their families. Funeral service at St. Edmund's Church, Chelmsford, S.E. London, 11.30 am Tuesday.

BALLARD - On May 27th 1990, suddenly on a sailing holiday in the Aegean Sea, C.R.E., J.P.D., M.A.R., W.R.C., Worcs, aged 65 years. Much loved husband, father and grandfather, will be sadly missed by his wife, three sons, two daughters, two brothers, much loved father-in-law and grandfather. Public service at St. Cadfael's Church, Tiverton, on Friday May 31st, followed by private family cremation. Family flowers only, donations to Cystic Fibrosis or Arthritis Research Council, c/o D.H. Tribe funeral directors, 01299 271102.

DALE - On May 26th, suddenly in Israel, aged 18, Paul Redgewell. Only son of Anthony and Pam, and beloved son of Maurice.

DOBBIN - On May 22nd, to Kate (née Doherty) and Roger, a daughter, Amanda Harriet, a sister for Oliver.

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CHESTER - On May 24th, at Glenmayre, son of Lt-Cmdr and Mrs J.C. Phillips of Wellington, Lancashire, and the late Mrs Sandra and the late Wg-Cmdr Lt-Col D.S. Copson of Wednesfield, West Midlands.

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Undeterred by television's past failures to find a winning magazine format for women, the BBC is having a go. Geraldine Bedell reports

Prime time for women

Do women want their own television programme? It is terribly tempting for broadcasters to believe they do. Women's magazines, after all, sell in their millions.

If you can appeal to more than half the population on common themes, just think what it will do for the ratings. And yet it has never quite worked. Neither of the two previous attempts to produce a women's magazine for television (*Watch the Woman* in 1985 and *Woman in View* in 1988; both on Channel 4) made it to a second series.

Undeterred, BBC1 has launched another attempt at the genre. *Head Over Heels* goes out on Sunday evenings at around 6pm – a time when, even in summer, the BBC must expect good ratings. *The Clothes Show*, which it replaces, regularly had an audience of more than four million. The producer of the series, Jane Lush, is anxious to stress that this is not meant to be television which excludes men. "I felt there was a need for a programme which looked at issues from a woman's point of view. But we are deliberately not calling it a women's magazine, we hope it will appeal more widely than that."

The programme grazes across all the fields favoured by women's magazines, from topical items to profiles and fashion. But whereas women's magazines may cater for all these interests, they rarely do so all at once. *The Woman's Own* reader is very different from the programme's handling of sex.

Readers of magazines can pick them up or put them down as the mood takes them. The *Head Over Heels* format necessarily forces the viewer the whole spectrum in just half an hour. Susan Rac, one of the co-presenters, intends that the programme will include hard news stories – Sunday's carried an item on Third World women who swallow plastic bags of drugs to smuggle them into Britain – alongside lighter items about single men who have affairs with married women, and "what you can tell about a man from the way he dances".

"The big mistake we made initially was to feel we had to cater for everyone," says the editor of *Watch the Woman*, Carol Sarler. "We'd panic that we'd not done anything one week for older women, or feminist women. By the end of the series we'd calmed down and were targeting younger women – but it is a problem, because TV demands such huge viewing figures before a programme is considered a success."

To target a programme at women implies that, if not quite a homogenous lump, they still have more in common than they have differences. This may become significant when it comes to the programme's handling of sex.

Lucy Pilkington, the other co-

presenter, and a director of *Head Over Heels*, believes that what distinguishes this show from previous attempts is that the latter were always "slightly bitter". While Ms Rac does play a slightly waspish role, it is noticeable that Ms Pilkington is there to be an enthusiastic foil. Ms Lush comments: "I want to prove something that television has slightly forgotten: that you can have serious and light items alongside each other."

With, of course, plenty of popular items thrown in. Ms Lush refers several times to *Nationwide* as a model for the editorial mix and appeal she is looking for. "You have to be aware on the one hand that television delivers a very broad audience, and on the other that old people don't only like to watch items about old people."

The questions which hang over *Head Over Heels* – whether either women's journalism works because it is precisely targeted, or if the quick change from light to dark issues is incongruous on the screen, or the show is in the right slot – will not be answered until further into the series. But does it matter that we have already read about what men talk – "or don't talk" – about in *Cosmopolitan* and *G&G*? We haven't seen the men on television before, sitting in their commuter train and explaining earnestly to the cameras that although they have been travelling together for 20 years, they know absolutely nothing about each other.

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A profitable passion: Robert Heron with a famous front page of *The Times* from 1949

TONY WHITE

Robert Heron owns more than a million newspapers, but it doesn't make him a Press baron. Yet those crisp, mint copies – some going back hundreds of years – earn him a handsome living.

There are probably few people in Britain who know as much about the history of newspapers as Mr Heron, and even fewer who share his trade.

His company, Press Archives, based in Sevenoaks, Kent, sells original copies of papers, mainly as gifts to mark birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions.

He supplies front-page reproductions of the more rare newspapers, and believes that these are better than the originals because, with the aid of modern technology, the pictures have been made sharper and the blemishes reduced.

Paper has always been Mr Heron's business. Formerly commercial development

manager with Bunzl, the paper and packaging group, he switched to running a chain of newsagents, then opened a gallery selling original and rare newspapers in Covent Garden nearly a decade ago.

"I was selling original newspapers which dealt with stories like the Plague or the Great Fire of London, and had many customers," he says. "But frequently someone would ask for a paper of a specific date as a birthday or anniversary gift."

"After turning them away politely for several years, I realized I should be selling people what they wanted, as well as continuing my love affair with historic newspapers. Soon afterwards, I was fortunate enough to buy a complete run of *The Times* from 1815 to 1975 – there

were about 20 tons of them, in beautifully-bound volumes – from a Scottish university."

"Then I picked up a smaller run of the *Daily Sketch* from 1914 to 1920. When the Express group changed hands, I bought its library, and also acquired the *London Evening News* library."

"At one time, all national and provincial newspapers had their own vast libraries. Then the old pages were put on microfilm, and they became largely redundant. Many have been rescued by Mr Heron."

"Newspapers, reference libraries and universities all had to make a decision over the past 20 years: can they really afford to keep thousands of original papers weighing anything up to 50lb a volume? More and more have

turned to microfilm, and the files have had to go."

At any one time, Press

Archives has more than a million newspapers in its

warehouses at Sevenoaks and Tonbridge. They are almost all in bound volumes. "Stacks of loose papers tend to go yellow round the edges and the fold, then start to break up," Mr Heron says.

Most of his business is done through newspaper advertising. Prices range from £10 plus VAT for a perfect, full-size front-page reproduction to £17.50 for an original newspaper. "We almost never buy single newspapers, although I might be interested in a copy dealing with the Titanic or Lusitania disasters."

"Undoubtedly the priciest English back number would be *The Times* of November 7,

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Living outside the family law

The number of unmarried couples living together, and children being born out of wedlock, is increasing. But are they adequately protected by the law when they split up? Alexandra King looks at moves for reform



Judge rejects claim by mistress for half share of business

By Robin Young

The former mistress of Mr Michael Whitehall, the West End theatrical agent, yesterday lost her claim for a "reasonable" share of what Mr Whitehall had been "so reasonably" given.

The Scottish Law Commission has opened a Pandora's box by seeking views on whether cohabiting couples should be covered by family law. The commission has issued a consultation paper, "The Effects of Cohabitation in Private Law", which raises the possibility of living-together contracts and "palimony" payments being recognized under Scottish law, as they are in some American states (but not in the UK). It cites the example of those who help to build a business, home or family, and are left without the legal right to compensation or maintenance when the relationship ends.

"Unfortunately, there aren't any cohabitantes' unions," says Dr David Nichols, of the Scottish Law Commission, "but we would hope to receive views from legal bodies and those representing single parents and family policy. Of course, the Church will probably step in, but the thrust of this discussion paper is quite definitely financial: what should the financial sort-out be on splitting up?"

Living-together contracts are, for the moment, only for the "clued up", as Dr Nichols puts it, and affect a tiny minority of cohabiting couples. "I don't see that marriage has any legal status wanting to bother with them," he says.

Professor Brenda Hoggett, who heads the family law committee of the Law Commission in London, partly by the Government and

points out that since "the courts will recognize a properly valid contract in quantifiable terms", the English Law Commission is not over-concerned with the cohabitee question — although the majority of cohabiting couples are, the Scottish Commission suspects, in south-east England.

"There has been a more pressing need for reforming the grounds for divorce, and we have been looking at adoption, abuse, domestic violence and a great many other subjects," Professor Hoggett says. "The Scots are looking at what reforms will be needed for the codification of Scottish family law, but the chances in English law of people getting a share of the property to which they have contributed are already very good."

Some would dispute that. A year ago, in a case that held the headlines for more than a week, Victoria Windeler was told it was "ridiculous" for her to expect a share of the home she had shared with the theatrical agent Michael Whitehall for 10 years, or financial compensation for the business she believed she had helped him build up over the years through her domestic support. The judge noted that under English law men had no legal responsibilities to their mistresses, even if they were living together.

Malcolm Wicks, the director of the Family Policy Studies Unit, an independent think-tank funded partly by the Government and

partly by private trusts, says that "cohabitation and its implications for family law and social policy are top of our agenda. It is one of the single most significant social changes of the generation — particularly when children are involved."

The Family Policy Studies Unit plans to undertake a major study of cohabitation, which it touches upon in a paper, "Family Change and Future Policy", to be published next month — "if we get the funding," Mr Wicks says. "So much of the evidence we have about 'family life' is based on marriage and divorce statistics, and we know nothing about what is happening to cohabiting couples and their children."

In the "swinging" Sixties, comparatively few couples cohabited, Mr Wicks believes. "Then, in the Seventies, more couples started to cohabit as a prelude to marriage rather than as a substitute for it, and in the Eighties it truly became the norm. In 1987, 48 per cent of married women reported living with a man before they married him, compared with only 19 per cent in the late Seventies. In 1987, 17 per cent of single women were cohabiting, more than double the number in 1981."

But the most significant figure, he finds, is that today more than 25 per cent of children are born out of wedlock. "Sixty-eight per cent of those births were registered by both parents, and 50 per cent of those

parents were living at the same address," he says. Actresses, television presenters and other celebrities have been open about what used to be called "living in sin", he points out, and the profile of the cohabiting couple has changed.

"Now it's often very well-educated people rather than those in poverty and without family support — as was the case — who are cohabiting," says Zelda West-Meads of Relate, and its northern counterpart, the Scottish Marriage Guidance Council, would be among the organizations from which the Scottish Law Commission hopes to hear. "I would have thought the English Law Commission should be addressing this subject," says Ms West-Meads, "but I'd be against anyone setting themselves up in moral judgement on cohabitation. That would make it become a bit more like the adversarial divorce system we already have."

Sue Slipman, the director of the National Council for One-Parent Families, which has its equivalent in the Scottish Council for Single Parents, says: "For some time we worked on cohabitation contract, but the Family Law Reform Act now allows certain property transfers and claims. We certainly counsel people to have pre-cohabitation contracts, but the worst time to make a contract is when you're in love — a contract made at that time, even an enforceable one, may not be fair. But in order to look at the

question seriously, the Government would have to make cohabitation respectable, and that is something I can't see it encouraging."

Margaret Bennett, a family law solicitor and the vice-president of the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and of the Family Law Committee of the International Bar Association, agrees. "If you make the rights of unmarried couples the same as married couples, what's the point of getting married? Divorce is easy enough these days anyway."

"Talking about cohabitating couples is like talking about anyone who jointly owns anything — brothers and sisters, two, or even three, students buying a house together. If one person does a bigger share of the work or makes some improvements, should that person have a bigger share of the profits or should their work be valued and paid for?"

"And what do you define as a couple? Homosexual couples, *ménages à trois*? Only couples who have produced a baby? I think it's a much more far-reaching area than they have realized."

Ms Bennett fears that a generation brought up in the shadow of divorce may feel "better off unmarrried because of the problems divorce creates. They tie the trauma to the marriage certificate, rather than to the breakdown of human relationships. Should we be going around changing our fundamental unit of society, or should we be educating people?"

A question of exam timing

As Britain's pupils tackle their GCSE examinations, schools and parents face the problem of what to do post-exam

The debate about the timing of the GCSE continues to rage, even as thousands of pupils take their exams. They started in mid May, two weeks before the half-term holiday, and finish in mid June. Staff, pupils and parents all complain that teaching time has been shortened at the start of term, and that the end of the term, when the exams are over, is wasted. Heads of both state and independent schools are vigorously campaigning to have the exams later. But the Joint Council for the GCSE says this is impossible because of the number of courses involved. John MacGregor, the Education Secretary, has asked them to introduce a new timetable by 1992.

Boarding schools tackle end of term in variety of ways. David Jewell, Master of Haileybury College, explains: "Because we take in a large number of pupils at sixth form, we don't start A level teaching till the new term." Instead, the school offers a lakeside camp for open-air activities, or a sailing course ("leadership training", the head says firmly), or pupils can stay with a family in France. Last year similar courses were followed with enthusiasm. Mr Jewell feels strongly that "parents have paid the fees and ought not to pay extra."

Parents have already paid the fees and ought not to have to pay extra'

Next year at Shrewsbury School, where

almost every boy stays on to the sixth form and there is no new intake, the headmaster, Ted Maidment, has his plans ready. "We will send all the pupils home for 48 hours, then get them back as the new lower sixth, and start teaching them as such. I don't think there will be resistance, so long as the teaching is differently pitched." This year, meanwhile, there will be expeditions, cultural events, sport and some pre-A level lessons.

Tatiana Macaire, the head of Ashford School, in Kent (with 550 girls), faces the challenge of having both day and boarding pupils. After a week at home after the exams, girls do two week's work experience, and back at school there are gap-bridging A level courses. The week before the grand finale of Founder's Day all the post-GCSE students are involved in rehearsals, putting up exhibitions, computerizing the library and helping with younger girls.

Many heads note that parents choose to take an earlier and longer family holiday after GCSEs are over. Parents whose work prevents them having an early summer holiday include barristers, MPs, civil servants, businessmen and auctioneers. Many post-GCSE students use the spare time to earn money — but so far there are no signs of employers jumping on the bandwagon and hiring cheap labour in June.

In order to make up for lost teaching time, many schools are starting their autumn term earlier, and increasing numbers are opting for a two-week break in the middle (resisted by boarding schools with substantial numbers of children whose families live abroad). Eventually, of course, the problem goes away of its own accord — when the children have finished with schools for good.

SARAH DRUMMOND

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& BRIEFLY

Designs for living

THE third British Interior Design Exhibition, which opened at the Chelsea Old Town Hall in London's King's Road last week and will run until June 17, is notable for the "livability" of its interiors after so many flights of fancy in previous years. The results make excellent viewing, with some extremely covetable pieces and good ideas. David Hicks's "White Study", for example, is a prototype for the home work-station of the future. This year, for the first time, all exhibits will be auctioned by Bonhams at 6.30pm on June 14. Entry is £7, which includes the lavish catalogue. Contact the Interior Design House at the exhibition (071-351 3716) for further details.

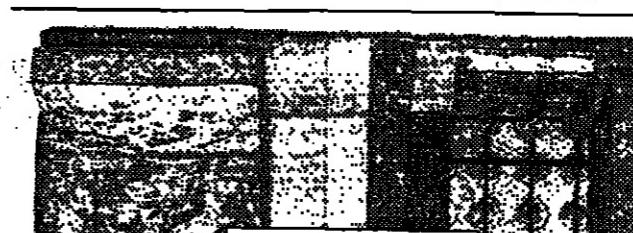
Bonsai bonus

THOSE who were smitten by the spectacular display of bonsai trees at the Chelsea Flower Show last week — or who could not quite see them because of the crush — will want to attend the National Bonsai Exhibition at the Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8, on Saturday and Sunday, June 16 and 17. Phone the institute on 071-503 4535 for further details.

Squeaky clean

INCREASING numbers of men — even in Britain — are wearing cosmetics. A new grooming range has been launched to appeal to the new breed of green and clean man. From Pretty Natural, "Natural Man" is said to fulfil his "aspirations for speed and efficiency and also for an improved environment with a minimal packaging concept and the inclusion of only pure, natural ingredients which have not been tested on animals..." The strength of Natural Man apparently comes "from a masculine and vital blend of lemon and ginseng oils to keep his body in peak condition..." Prices are reasonable — the shampoo costs £2.45, for example. The range is available by mail order from Pretty Natural.

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Guarding goal for the fans

The toughest month in Nadine Eksendjian's 25-year career as Britain's honorary consul in Cagliari, the capital of Sardinia, is about to begin. This week, the vanguard of an expected 8,000 English football fans starts arriving on the island, well in advance of its team's opening World Cup match against the Republic of Ireland on June 11. To cope with the expected heavy workload, Her Majesty's Government is flying in six full-time consuls normally resident on the Italian mainland. The first, from Naples, arrives today.

Miss Eksendjian, aged 72, refuses to be ruffled. "I'm going to be sitting in the office during the day, as usual. There will probably be more consular work than normal. But I'm in the habit of doing one thing at a time. I'm not the excitable type."

Her main responsibility is helping Britons in trouble. Sardinia is not a leading package tour destination, but growing numbers of holidaymakers have discovered the charms of its clear seas and sandy beaches. Many are yachtsmen, sailing around the Mediterranean. Miss Eksendjian issues them with emergency passports, if required, and visits those unfortunate enough to land in hospital or prison. She expects to be doing much the same over the next month. "Issuing an emergency passport does not take long," she says. "One person in hospital is much more time-consuming than 10 with piffing problems."

Is she ready for 8,000 football fans, though? "I'm not a wild enthusiast," she says. "Call me a temporary fan. But it's a marvellous game. I can't see why England supporters should be any different. I'm hoping most sincerely that England will win." Miss Eksendjian (she pronounces it "ex-surgeon") belongs to the old-fashioned school of British representatives abroad — good-humoured, efficient, a little stiff. She is of Armenian extraction; her grandfather went to Britain from Istanbul in 1892. "Don't make me out to be someone who has just arrived from Yerevan."

Her family's centenary in Britain will come, appropriately, in the year of the European Single Market. Her father worked at the London Metal Exchange, and Miss Eksendjian was sent for her education to Paris. Languages were her forte, and her first job

If a British supporter runs into trouble in Sardinia, a remarkable 72-year-old woman will be on hand to help,

Andrew Lycett
reports

was working for Save the Children Fund. At the start of the Second World War, she joined the First Aid Nursing Yeomanary and then the Special Operations Executive. Asked about her wartime experiences, she says firmly: "Never mind."

After hostilities, she became an international civil servant at the fledgeling Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), based in Paris. There she remained for nearly two decades, including five years as head of the OECD's mission to Sardinia.

She discounts any suggestion that she "fell in love" with the island. But when the mission ended, she decided to stay on, becoming honorary consul in 1965. A colleague in Rome says she knows "simply everybody" on the island, and in the 10 years from 1975, the office was expanded to become a full consular post, with two assistants. This was when Sardinia's notorious mountain-based bandits were at their most lawless. In August 1979 they kidnapped three members of the Schid family, and Miss Eksendjian was involved in negotiations for the family's release.

Since then, Miss Eksendjian has reverted to being honorary consul. She lives modestly, in a flat in the centre of Cagliari. "From 7.30 in the morning until 11.30 at night I'm always doing something. If there's consular work to do, I do it. When there's a rush, one forgets one's life, one's hobbies, one's home."

For relaxation she likes to embroider, "not that I'm very good at it". She also enjoys gardening, but in Cagliari this pastime is limited to "growing things on the terrace". Family members from Britain are regular visitors.

Ron Godfrey, Britain's consul in Rome, who will be head



Playing it cool: honorary consul Nadine Eksendjian is unruffled by the imminent arrival in Sardinia of 8,000 English fans for the World Cup

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But the problem of smell

ARTS

DANCE

At home with the classics

Sylvie Guillem, the reigning queen of the Royal Ballet and star of a Covent Garden gala tonight in honour of Dame Margot Fonteyn, talks to Debra Craine

They have both been described as the world's greatest ballerinas in their day, but no two dancers could be more different than Margot Fonteyn and Sylvie Guillem. So it is ironic that tonight's Covent Garden tribute to Dame Margot, which is a sell-out, will feature the young French superstar in one of Fonteyn's greatest roles.

A quarter of a century after Fonteyn first danced Juliet to Rudolf Nureyev's Romeo, the Royal Ballet is honouring her with a royal gala performance of Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Romeo and Juliet*, starring Jonathan Cope and Guillem in the title roles.

Fonteyn once said, with characteristic modesty, that "the standard of the dancing is so very very much higher now that frankly if I started today, I don't think I'd have any career at all. The technique of all the dancers is just astounding today."

Certainly none is more astounding than that of Guillem, aged 25, who made a meteoric rise through the ranks of the Paris Opéra Ballet before joining the Royal Ballet as a principal guest artist in February 1989. She burst on the Covent Garden scene with a phenomenal technique based on amazing strength and suppleness which left audiences gasping, and critics reaching for superlatives. But once the novelty of the unbelievably high extensions of her long legs wore off, some critics began to complain of an emotional coolness and a carefully studied approach to her interpretations.

Guillem herself is aware of the limitations in possessing such an extraordinary body. As she says: "Technique is boring; I have a physical gift and that's not enough. You must work on the gift so that it does not become a defect. I can't say that I'm an artist. I just know that when I go on stage,

I give everything I have, not only my legs, not only my feet, not only my body. I try to tell a story. Sometimes I'm able to cry because I feel like it. I'm able to love because I feel like it. I don't consider myself like an instrument."

Although Guillem never saw Fonteyn on stage and has not felt influenced by the British ballerina, she appreciates how dancers have changed since the days of Fonteyn and Nureyev.

She explains: "I think the problem is that of course they have more technique but they have fewer emotions. Before you were telling a story, now you are doing piroettes, you are doing jumps, and it's like a competition between each dancer to turn more, to raise the leg higher."

However, Guillem probably would not accept that her own virtuosity is partly responsible for this new attitude to dancing. Since her arrival at the Royal Opera House, other dancers in the company have felt compelled to try to match her technical brilliance and astonishing extensions, whatever the cost to their natural lines.

She denies ever courting celebrity status, fuelled in Britain by her flamboyant Parisienne chic and a highly public row with Nureyev. An *étoile* of the Paris Opéra Ballet when she was only 19, Guillem became the most talked about ballerina in the world when she walked out on the company and Nureyev, who was then its director, in a dispute over her contract.

Seeking more money and greater freedom to dance elsewhere as a guest artist, the wily 23-year-old found herself up against an intractable management. "They treated me like I was still a little girl from the school. They told me, 'No you are not going to do that, you are not going to dance over there.'



Sylvie Guillem as Juliet, partnered by Patrick Shepherd as Paris, in *Romeo and Juliet*

"I didn't leave Paris Opéra because of Nureyev. I left because of the administration."

"We are still good friends. I admire him a lot, but I can disagree with him. I don't regret anything."

At Anthony Dowell's invitation,

she found a new home in the Royal, a company which provides her with a classical base — "because you need to come back home to rebuild your strength in the classics" — while allowing her to make frequent guest appearances abroad.

So how does she feel about being described as the world's greatest ballerina?

She says: "Of course it's always flattering, but it's not like a medal I wear because each time I go on stage, maybe next day I won't be the greatest dancer in the world."

roles. Liepa, aged 28, admits that he worships his father, and more so since his death a year ago: he had followed him into the Bolshoi. He is tall and has a blond Nordic beauty which comes from his Baltic mother. "The Russian from my father helps me dance openly. the Latvian-German culture helps me think hard."

He had a good life in New York. He was feted. Liepa explains: "But in New York you were invited to dinner so your host could show you off to important friends. In Leningrad, you are invited to dinner so your host can find out about your art."

"I missed the Russian audience. We need the romantic style, the prince you can dream about. People need a dream to survive."

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TELEVISION

Mystery men

ALTHOUGH it was seriously overlong at 90 minutes, at the heart of Christopher Rawlence's *The Missing Reel* on Channel 4 last night was a crackingly good mystery story. On September 16, 1890, a man called Augustin Le Prince disappeared off a train between Dijon and Paris. Two years earlier, in the garden of a small house in Leeds, he had invented the moving picture.

That last sentence can never be written without raising other ghosts: Edweard Muybridge, who first photographed a horse in motion; William Friese-Greene of the magic box; and Thomas Edison, who finally got the movie patent and most of the money. But Le Prince has a very strong claim to the invention, and members of his family are still convinced that Edison's vastly better organization simply did away with him to forestall any competition.

Certainly this was the belief of his loyal widow who set detectives on his trail and regularly fought police and patent offices to establish not only her husband's murder but also his invention. Edison had other rivals, some of whom enlisted the Le Prince family to support their claims, and by 1910 the history of early film had already become very fogged.

At issue here was the classic struggle between the maverick inventor and the huge corporation as well as the more domestic tragedy of a vanishing husband and father. In all likelihood, Le Prince was not murdered at all, by Edison or anyone else: he had got into severe financial trouble and wanted to spare his family the distress of bankruptcy.

All the same, the questions persist, not least those surrounding another mysterious death: that of Le Prince's son soon after losing yet another patents struggle. But even the plaque in Leeds commemorating the centenary seemed not quite enough of a qualification even for selling small-ads, and by the time he finally asked himself whether he was a victim of society or "a little shit", I had already made up my mind. We left him heading off on a plane to India for a whole new career as Elmer Gantry.

the father could well explain the suicide of the son: in any event the victory went to Edison and the rest is, if not history, then at least the making of a good programme.

Paul Watson's fly-on-the-wall *Present Imperfect* series (BBC 2) continued with *Thorny and Co*, a documentary which looked for much of its time like a latterday *Brideshead*, remade on a wet afternoon by Federico Fellini. Its real-life star was the old Harrovian Thornton Streeter, a yuppie on the rebound from the stock-market crash who finished up all too suitably making some much-needed cash as an extra on *Capital City*. He was also a poet of *Faeces Corner* pretensions, a born-again Christian with an interest in revivalist commercial radio stations, and a man apparently incapable of analyzing himself in five minutes when 50 minutes would do.

Here, as in his earlier and better *The Fishing Party*, Watson was, I think, trying to tell us something about the evils of the idle rich. But the people he chose last night to illustrate his thesis were so loony that they would have seemed extra-terrestrial no matter what class or income-bracket they came from.

"I have decided to get into accounts executive type stuff," Thornton told one understandably perplexed admiral, while his terror of taking any regular employment occupying more than about 20 minutes a week seemed to limit his career options.

At times he seemed to be economically all right ("I do have houses in France and will be buying some ski resorts"), at others to be down to his last blue chips, which he discussed as though they were some new kind of colourful potato crisp. An endless ability to talk drivel on telephones and bare his teeth seemed not quite enough of a qualification even for selling small-ads, and by the time he finally asked himself whether he was a victim of society or "a little shit", I had already made up my mind. We left him heading off on a plane to India for a whole new career as Elmer Gantry.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

Dancing stars who would rather not keep company

Simon Tait meets Andris Liepa and Faroukh Ruzimatov, stars of the Kirov Ballet and American Ballet Theatre, both due in Britain

"I am a patriot," says Andris Liepa, on why he returned to the Soviet Union to dance. "The people need me here, and ballet is good for patriotism. It's why Russian ballet is in its Renaissance."

The rumours in 1989 were that when Liepa returned after a year in New York, he had "defected back" to perestroika, and that the Bolshoi he had left refused him so he went to the Kirov instead.

He says that is nonsense: the Bolshoi had nothing new to offer him — a criticism which audiences in London gave about the Bolshoi repertoire last summer — but the Kirov had something British ballet-goers will be able to judge Liepa's own contribution in this summer's tour.

Less clear is under whose banner London Coliseum audiences will be seeing Faroukh Ruzimatov, that other Kirov star. He has announced that he is joining American Ballet Theatre (ABT) which Liepa left at the end of 1989.

This summer, the Kirov comes

to London and Birmingham. Whether Ruzimatov dances with the Kirov or the ABT, he is currently dancing with ABT in New York. That company insists that Ruzimatov will join it for his British tour in July.

In Leningrad, ballet is a spectator sport. There is no more knowledgeable audience. Rival fans support Liepa and Ruzimatov, much as they do Liverpool and Everton in Britain. Leningraders say that if the two were to dance in the same performance, the fans would bay at each other. Wild cheering would come from one side of the house for a Liepa leap, answered from the other side by a Ruzimatov manoeuvre. The dancers are unable to walk the streets without being mobbed.

He is a peculiar shape for a classical dancer — short and wiry — as was another great graduate of

the Vaganova, Nijinsky. He is temperamental and famously adept at upsetting his partners. He has been troubled by injury, but is philosophical about it: "If you wake up in the morning and you don't feel any pain, then you should know that you are dead."

When I spoke to him in February, he was still negotiating with ABT. But the reason for the move was plain: he was not dancing enough with the Kirov. "There are only 14 ballets a month at the theatre. Everybody has to dance, and there are many soloists, so it means I only get to dance once or twice a month on the Kirov stage." Liepa had just arrived, and the implication seemed to be that there was not room for the two of them.

Liepa's father was Maris Liepa, one of the Bolshoi's greats, and a world famous interpreter of heroic roles. Liepa, aged 28, admits that he worships his father, and more so since his death a year ago: he had followed him into the Bolshoi. He is tall and has a blond Nordic beauty which comes from his Baltic mother. "The Russian from my father helps me dance openly. the Latvian-German culture helps me think hard."

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Andris Liepa: Happy to be with the Kirov

CRITICS' CHOICE: DANCE

PERFORMANCE ART

ROYAL BALLET: The Margot Fonteyn tribute performance tonight is sold out, but there are further performances of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Covent Garden "proms" week. Lesley Collier and guest star Laurent Hilaire (Mon), Viviana Durante and Stuart Cassidy (Tues). Tomorrow, Tracy Brown has her first leading role in *Month in the Country*, and Darcey Bussell leads the cast of *Song of the Earth*. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (071-2401066), 7.30pm, £1-£4.

LONDON CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATRE: Three recent productions begin a short tour. Dan Wagoner's *Turtles All the Way Down*, Jonathan Lunn's *Goes Without Saying* and Kim Brandstrup's *Orcos*. Apollo, Oxford (0865 244544), tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, £5.50-£10.50.

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET: The season's great romantic comedy *La Fille mal gardée* (tonight, tomorrow), the premiere of Graham Lustig's *Inocence* (Fri Sat) with Ashton's *The Dream* and Binkley's *Flowers of the Forest*. Theatre Royal, Plymouth (0752 669565), 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm, £7-£21.

TWO STAR DANCERS from the Paris Opera, Virginie Pollert and Jean Grumberg, give a special duet evening at the English Festival, including Balanchine's *Sonata*, a suite by Merce Cunningham and John Cage and *Nouvelles Lunes* by Andy Depraz. Theatre Royal, Bath (0225 483362), Sat, 7.30pm, £5-£10. £14.50.

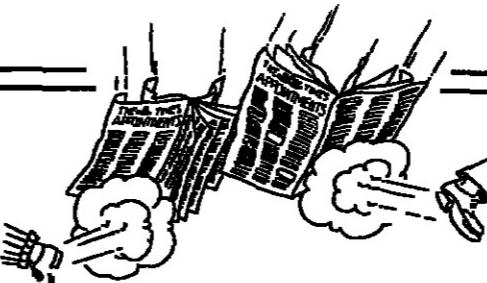
LE CORSAIRE: Opening the Kirov Ballet's London season, a relishing old-fashioned drama with some pure Petipa choreography. London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071 833 3161), Tues until June 9, 7.30pm, mat June 9, 2pm, £8.50-£55.

NORTHERN BALLET THEATRE: London season opens with a mixed bill including Ronald Hynd's Oberon comedy *Amazoules* and Gillian Lynne's *Lipizzaner*. Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (071 278 8916), Tues until June 9, 7.30pm, mat June 9, 2.30pm, special gala prices tonight, then £4-£16.

JOHN PERCIVAL

CHISLAIN BODDINGTON

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ARTS

THEATRE

Unfair to all

Penny Ciniewicz, winner of the 1990 BAC Young Director Award, tells Geraldine Bedell of the difficulties faced by women wishing to become theatre directors



Ciniewicz: a winner at last

For young, aspiring theatrical directors unfortunate enough to be women, or otherwise unable to waltz straight out of public school and Oxbridge into the professional theatre, getting noticed can be a long business.

Penny Ciniewicz, winner of the Battersea Arts Centre's Young Director Award 1990, has spent years in underpaid, often menial theatrical jobs waiting for her break. Now she has an award, a play about to open, and is being noticed.

But she confirmed suspicions voiced in the recent Gulbenkian report, "A Better Direction", that there are dozens of potentially excellent directors who are being denied opportunities because of the ad hoc and biased nature of recruitment.

"Now I have this tag, I'm a marketable product," she said. "Six months ago I was nobody, and none of the people who are now speaking to me would have bothered. The appealing thing is that there are dozens and dozens like me; the money is not there to take risks on them."

Ciniewicz's play, *Homework*, by German playwright Frank Xavier Kroetz, opens at Battersea on June 6. Two days later, the Royal National Theatre hosts a Platform discussion on the Gulbenkian report, to include the report's author Kenneth Rea, actress Jane Lapotaire, and Clare Venables, artistic director of the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield.

The report concludes that the current system for finding and training directors is not only unfair, but also inefficient, producing mainly male young directors, who tend to be academically expert, but often grossly ill-informed about how to handle actors or the technical aspects of theatre. It includes many complaints about "young directors just out of university, often lacking a sense of respect for stage managers and actors", or for that matter, knowledge of technique or practicalities.

In many ways, Ciniewicz at 26 is much better prepared than these bright young academic boys: she has worked with writers (she was on the management council of the New Playwrights' Trust, and coordinator of *Wordplay*, a festival of new writing aimed at marketing young writers). And as general manager of The Gate Theatre at Notting Hill, she was exposed to the mechanics: "When you are starting out, it is very easy to get the practical details wrong. But the Gate's work is very adventurous and testing, and because it is such a small building, you are never far from the action."

After university (Bristol, where she studied English and Drama), she took acting classes, the better to understand what makes actors tick. "I knew I wasn't ready to direct — 21 is far too young to do it well. You don't know enough about the practical aspects, and you have very little to offer actors," she says.

But even though in retrospect her "training" may have proved useful (Deborah Warner similarly fought her way up through stage management and administration) it was far from ideal — there were periods of under-employment, and, inevitably, gaps in what she was able to pick up.

"After university, people who wanted to be actors were able to go off and do three years at RADA. There's no extended training for directors which would allow you to feel you had served your apprenticeship and are equipped," she says.

She denies the suggestion — raised although not endorsed in the Gulbenkian report — that directing is not a skill that can be taught. "That is the same as saying you cannot teach acting. It is completely fallacious. You cannot teach everything, but you can teach an awful lot."

"A Better Direction" suggests

that ignorance of theatrical convention among young directors straight from university often comes across as arrogance or conceit. "If you have had no training, you have to be arrogant to cover up how little you know," observes Ciniewicz. "But it is not really surprising there is so much hostility among actors towards directors; historically a lot of directors have been very bad."

Ideally, Ciniewicz would have liked to join a directing course similar to those in the United States, containing both theory and opportunities to watch experienced directors. As part of her Young Directors' prize, she observed Nicholas Hytner directing *Volpone*. "The most useful thing was to absorb some of his confidence. I felt much less overawed by the process. He is incredibly good as a director, but you see there is no magic formula."

Developing confidence to get out and sell yourself as a director is, Ciniewicz thinks, a particular problem for women. "There is a view that whatever the field, women tend to take a more circuitous or eclectic route. I think if I had been a man, I might have seen directing as easier. Men tend not to have the crisis of confidence I had when I left university. Public school tends to give boys a very developed sense of self-confidence, whereas women tend to gain that later, with experience of working and proving to themselves they can do it."

To make matters worse, there are precious few role-models. "Young men have more developed paths to follow, people to whom they can look. Deborah Warner is much vaunted now, but she was not around when I started out, five or six years ago. There are only two women in senior directing roles in large regional theatres."

Ciniewicz believes she won the Young Directors' title partly because she took risks in her actors' workshop, taking an irreverent, comedic, non-naturalistic approach to Chekhov's *Three Sisters*. She is certainly taking risks in choosing *Homework* for her winner's show: the cast includes a two-year-old (who may be on stage much of the time, depending on how much the child screams), a 10-year-old, and an on-stage depiction of an abortion, which provoked riots when it was first performed in Germany in 1970.

"I thought I probably wanted to do a foreign play: there is a plethora of European plays which people should see, and they are often stretching in terms of theatrical style. But I chose it because it was the first I came across which stopped me dead."

Ciniewicz will now receive an Arts Council bursary to subsidize employment as an assistant director in the professional theatre. Directors, the Gulbenkian report points out, need to embody many, often contradictory, qualities. Penny Ciniewicz's experience shows that at whatever age they break through, they have to be both lucky and exceptionally determined to acquire most of these skills — more or less accidentally — along the way.

• Homework opens at Battersea Arts Centre (071-223 2223) on June 6.

GRAMOPHONE



William Walton film scores on record, British composers and the cinema, and a collector's guide to the music of Carl Nielsen, are highlights of the June GRAMOPHONE, together with the most informed reviews of the latest classical recordings and new releases on Compact Disc, LP, Cassette, Laserdisc and DAT. JUNE ISSUE AT YOUR NEWSAGENT NOW.

POETRY

Musical chapter and verse

This Saturday is the 150th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Hardy. Richard Morrison looks at how folk and church music permeated the author's life and is reflected in his work, particularly his poetry

The only poet to rival Shakespeare in the subtle and extensive use of musical metaphor is Thomas Hardy. To read through his more than 900 poems — a magnificent imaginative journey upon which, I hope, every English literature student has been sent as the 150th anniversary of Hardy's birth approaches — is not only to sample the terrifying darkness of Victorian pessimism at its most undiluted.

The reader also enters into a folk-music world drawn in such intimate detail that he or she seems to be hearing the very sounds Hardy describes: viols primatively bowing "Winchester New" in the west gallery of some Wessex church; a foolish fiddler striking up a reel at a country fair; or the village choir carolling whose belief Hardy envies but cannot share.

When "The deeper thinkers sneer and snarl" at this naive country fair, the repercussions can be extraordinary. In "The Chorister's Burial", the soul-

same, though Dynasties passed". In one of Hardy's most famous poems, "The Darkling Thrush", clearly written in despair on the final night of the 19th century, the bird's song seems to convey "Some blessed Hope, whereof he knew/And I was unaware". The thrush could be a metaphor for every village chorister whose simple belief Hardy envies but cannot share.

When "The deeper thinkers sneer and snarl" at this naive country fair, the repercussions can be extraordinary. In "The Chorister's Burial", the soul-

less vicar who stops the choir from playing the dead organist's favourite psalm round his grave is woken at midnight to see an angel band doing the job. Or the scenario can turn tragic. "The Church Builder", who is derided for spending too much time and money on his beloved building, hangs himself from his own roof-screen. "The Chapel Organist", sacked because she has too many men-friends, shames her accusers by taking poison and expiring in the last verse of her last hymn.

The ritual of Christmas carol-singing carried a particularly

ambivalent significance for Hardy. He was not often as bitter about the season of peace and goodwill as in "Christmas 1924": "After two thousand years of mass /We've got as far as poison gas". Nevertheless, the Christmas carols rarely have such pleasant experiences in his poetry as in his tongue-in-cheek novel *Under The Greenwood Tree*. Take "The Rash Bride", in which the carol-singers call on the girlfriend of one of their number, only to find she has secretly married someone else. Later that Christmas they find her body down a well.

Or take "Seen By The Waits", in which the singers spy the lady of the house dancing inside, alone. She has just heard that her "roving spouse" is dead. Or examine one of Hardy's most Gothic extravaganzas, "The Paphian Ball". Here, the entire choir is supernaturally hijacked on Christmas Eve, apparently by the Devil, to a wild ball where they play till dawn, forgetful of their parish duties. But when they strike up the carol "While Shepherds Watched", the whole diabolical orgy disappears; the bemused singers find themselves back on Egdon Heath near where an ancient burial ground "bulged like a supine negress' breast". They shamefacedly make their way back home, only to be congratulated by other villagers on the brilliance of their carolling.

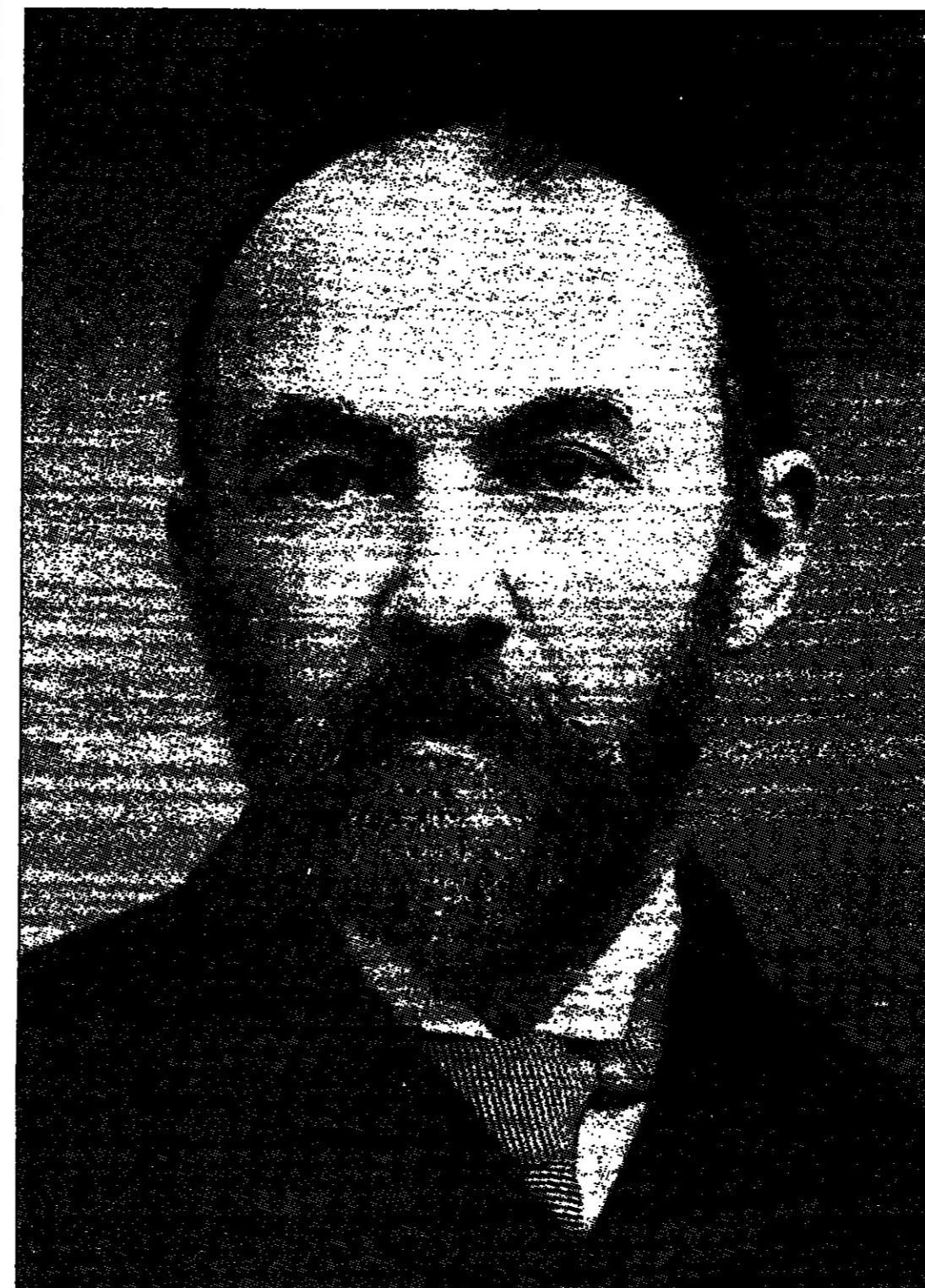
Darker musical images also haunt Hardy's poems. The image of the dance can mean life, youth and the seizing of present joys. But Hardy also presents the figure of the cynical fiddler who, observing the dancing couples, can "see them pay high for their prancing" — the payment being hasty marriages and life-long misery.

Musical instruments can be symbols of human decay. Viols, in Hardy's poems, are frequently worm-riddled, like bodies in coffins. And in "Penance" — one of his greatest mourning poems for his wife — a pale old man sits wretchedly by a harpsichord that has long fallen silent: "... the chill old keys, like a skull's brown teeth/Loose in their sheath/Freeze my touch; yes, freeze."

Most often, however, Hardy makes music stand for something fleeting, unrepeatable, easily missed. "Everything glowed with a gleam; yet we were looking away!" is how he ends his idyllic childhood vision in "The Self Unseeing"; his father playing the fiddle to his smiling mother, while young Hardy dances giddily.

Hardy's poetry is a master storyteller's ironic chronicle of incident and coincidence: quirky twists of circumstance that emphasize the human spirit's dogged ability to survive the worst adversities which a malevolent deity can devise.

His greatest musical poem, "At The Railway Station, Upway", catches in a few marvellous lines his whole view of human existence. A convict, a policeman and a little boy are brought together by chance, waiting for a train. It is a "pointless" encounter, except that the boy has a violin, and when he plays it the handicapped convict suddenly bursts into song: "This life so free is the thing for me!" Gallows humour? Self-deception? Sarcasm? It does not matter. Hardy's subject is not what people sang when they have "handcuffs" on. It is the fact that they sing at all.



Thomas Hardy in 1889: his poetry is an "ironic chronicle of incident and coincidence"

LITERATURE

Re-righting writers' rights

Tim Heald reports a brief but vivid encounter with a Romanian heroine

"AND if I get locked up will you come and visit me?" asked Ana Blandiana, with a dazzling smile that said she did not think prison was an imminent prospect. But the question was a reminder that in Romania there are still few certainties. "Of course," I promised. She wagged a finger. "I'll keep you to it," she replied.

It had taken two weeks to arrange this meeting. Recent events have made Blandiana world famous. Even when we did meet — amid the faded gift of one of the two Writers' Union mansions in Bucharest — there was a flow of interruptions. Attractive, exuberant, a prize-winning poet and novelist, she is one of the symbols of the revolution. As her curriculum vitae so poignantly puts it: "In 1985 and between August 1988 and December 1989, it was not permitted to pronounce her name."

Blandiana's name and telephone number had been given to me by International PEN in London. The world association of writers, which was founded in England in 1921, is now a federation with branches in almost every literate country. Romania's PEN,

first sponsored by Queen Marie, had died under the Ceausescu (along with crime fiction, thought to encourage the real thing).

The PEN people in London knew that attempts were being made to re-activate the Romanian centre but had had little news. To reorganize, at least 20 Romanians had to sign the four-point PEN charter, an affirmation of human rights with a literary bias.

On our first day we were briefed by a first secretary of the Writers' Union, who seemed disturbingly vague and even defensive about a PEN centre. Romania is very confusing, and made more so by the poisonous mutual mistrust which is the worst hangover from the dictatorship. It is infectious.

Several days later, visiting Mircea Mihai, the young novelist who edits *Horizon*, the literary magazine based in Ti-

moara, I heard the first informed news of PEN. Mircea said that he thought Blandiana had copies of the charter and was collecting the signatures.

Our interpreter, whose father had been sacked for publishing a children's novel by Blandiana which was thought to be a veiled attack on Ceausescu, telephoned around town. Finally, on the last day of our visit, she heard that the author was at the Writers' Union, where she would be for another 10 minutes. We hailed a battered Dacia cab, and moments later, there she was, a smiling, rushing and apologetic presence in a flowered two-piece suit.

She said 22 copies of the PEN Charter had been signed and they would soon be in the post. I told her I was returning to London next day. "I'll take them with me if you like." "Da, da," she said, delighted at evading the vagaries of the international post.

And then she was gone, waving and making me promise to visit her in prison if things went wrong. I was only the courier, only a tiny part of the process of bringing Romania's writers back to the international community.

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REVIEWS

Going for the emotions

DANCE

English National Ballet
Palace, Manchester

THE posters outside the Palace Theatre still show the photograph of Peter Schaufuss, English National Ballet's former director, but last night we had only two-thirds of the programme he had planned for the company. The intention had been to show all British choreography this spring. A pity that when Michael Clark felt obliged to postpone his new version of *The Rite of Spring*, all that the new management could find to replace it was Béjart's well worn old *Boléro*, popular, but an odd choice for this context.

The rest of the programme was well worth doing and attracted what looked a good audience even on a Bank holiday; so much for the theory that the public only wants popular classics.

Christopher Bruce's latest creation for the company is *Symphony In Three Movements*, to Stravinsky's score. The best known ballet to this music is Balanchine's, which Birmingham Royal Ballet has announced for the autumn, and it is amazing that two choreographers can hear the same piece so differently.

Bruce starts well, with a lot of jagged, angular movement for 10 dancers scurrying under the legs of enormous towers of steel lattice-work (design by Nadine Baylis). But the jazzy overtones of the second movement lead him to a jaunty duet, danced by Josephine Jewkes and a newcomer, Alessandro Lacopini, with his-



Josephine Jewkes, Alessandro Lacopini in Christopher Bruce's *Symphony in Three Movements*

swinging, hand-waving chirpiness.

From then on, right through to the surprisingly jubilant ending, you would scarcely guess that Stravinsky described this as a "war symphony". Bruce is too skilled a choreographer to confine with the music's outer surface, but it seems that this time he has not dug deep enough. The ballet is pleasant, vigorous and well danced, but for me this is no substitute for the nervous harsh-

ness of the Balanchine treatment. However, there is harshness enough to follow in the revival of Antony Tudor's *Echoing of Trumpets*. Set to Martini's *Fantaisies Symphoniques*, this shows a captured village in war time, its men gone, and the courage of its women resisting the violation and oppression of occupying soldiers.

Tudor's choreography depicts this in cogent dance images: a kick

and a movement of the arm are

enough to imply an execution, over-familiar partnering is all he needs to suggest a rape. This reticence makes the ballet the more compelling.

Some of the cast need more awareness of the implication of their movements, and tighter ensemble playing would not hurt, but Janette Mulligan, Marguerite Donle and Christine Camillo show how it should be done.

JOHN PERVITAL

of obscenities and bobbing mass of social *non sequitur* is Jorge Lavelli's virtuoso direction. Focused with more refinement than Berkoff's own pin-hole vision of the play, Lavelli sets his artistic metronome to the high-decibel beat of punk-rock, opting more for vigour than violence. As with all Lavelli's work, there is an elegant balletic quality, whose beauty makes his impeccably timed lapses into crude sexuality all the more startling, all the more relevant.

Not for Lavelli a banal prosenium and a handful of *quelconque* kitchen-sink props. He calls upon the set designer Pace to carve a vast fluid space out of La Colline's exemplar main stage, greedily eating into the first half-dozen rows of seats in order to improve audience confrontation. Designer mud delineates the perimeters of the acting area, on which is displayed a collection of chairs, ranging from the sturdy workday

to the garish spindly gilt. The Sphinx arrives as if expelled from the depths of a neo-post-modernist pyramid.

Greek, even à la *Francesca*, provides the cast with a rare dramatic vehicle in which to drive off classic conventions and flex atrophying contemporary theatrical muscles. Richard Fontana effectively pours himself into Eddy's black leathers and Catherine Hiegel sensually gyrates her way into the role of Eddy's maternal wife. Both on loan to La Colline from the Comédie Française, Fontana and Hiegel are like two panthers who find the door of their cage has been left open.

Fontana's Eddy does not manage to make the skin prickle, but there is a massive expenditure of physical energy whose steamy, sensuality permeates the air with the heady musk of masculine longing. Hiegel fills every contour of the character with her own molten talents, capturing the very

essence of the tart sweetened by the fruits of marital love and soured by maternal grief. She alone, is the stuff that Berkoff is made of, combining cultivated eroticism with backseat sex, eruditely with gutter-talk.

Judith Magre's natural theatrical flamboyance and penchant for daring dramatic curiosities, is misplaced as Eddy's mother, but comes into her own as the Sphinx.

A cardinal red serpent coiled inside a trenchcoat, she devours the feminist's tirade with diabolical relish. The Sphinx's soliloquy also guards some of the English syntax's spicy flavouring.

Least at home in this performance bullring is André Weber as the father. A sort of soft-centred, Frenchified Steptoe, who has the air of someone who wished he had stayed at home. His timid performance is not aided by the need to hoist up his too-large trousers, a ploy which annoys.

DIANE HILL

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EC ministers want sexual harassment to be a crime

From MICHAEL BINION IN BRUSSELS

SEXUAL harassment at work may soon be a crime in all 12 European Community countries after adoption yesterday by EC social affairs ministers of a code of conduct on "the protection of the dignity of women and men at work".

Ministers also adopted a resolution to intensify the fight against racism and xenophobia, with France, experiencing an upsurge in racist and anti-Semitic activities, calling for tougher measures.

The resolution on sexual harassment, an initiative by the Irish presidency, follows a study which found it a serious problem for many working women in the Community and an obstacle to the proper integration of women into the labour market.

It declares that "conduct of a sexual nature, or other conduct based on sex affecting the dignity of women and men

at work, including conduct of superiors and colleagues, constitutes an intolerable violation of the dignity of workers or trainees."

It was unacceptable if such conduct was "unwanted, unreasonable and offensive" to the recipient — including men — and if a person's rejection to such advances was used explicitly or implicitly to affect salary, job prospects and access to training.

Ministers called on states to start an information campaign to counter sexual harassment and to make employers and workers aware of practices in member states. They said that employers had a responsibility to see that the work environment was free from such unwanted conduct and to ensure that those complaining were not victimised.

The resolution was supported strongly by Mr Michael Howard, Secretary of State for Employment. He would be looking at all suggestions on how the call might be translated into law. But Britain had lengthy argument with its partners and with the Commission over the other resolution condemning racism.

This was not over the content or thrust of the measure — "we yield to no one in our determination to deal with racism," he said. But Britain argued that Brussels was not competent to deal with racism in Britain directed against ethnic minorities who are British or people from outside the EC working in Britain: that was the responsibility of the British government.

Several other countries agreed that member states should deal with racism within their own societies, and the Commission resolution was changed as a result. This infuriated Miss Vassou Papandreou, the Social Affairs Commissioner, who accused ministers of in effect discriminating between EC migrant workers and other non-EC victims of racism.

Mr Howard said that giving Brussels competence in this area would set a precedent which could be used to give the Commission a say in immigration policies, which remain firmly the responsibility of member states.

The mixed resolution condemns all forms of racism, calls for application of laws curbing xenophobia, emphasizes the importance of legal help to victims, speaks of the need for better education to combat racial prejudice and calls for support for other initiatives, including those taken by the United Nations.

Rail freight operations to be slashed

Continued from page 1

BR to abandon valuable freight services, leading to even more lorries on our roads," he said.

According to today's issue of *Rail Magazine*, Railfreight Distribution, which is made up of Freightliner and Speedlink, is believed to have submitted a radical "survival plan" to the British Railways Board, involving the abolition of all Speedlink services by January 1991.

While Freightliner carries container traffic, Speedlink is responsible for the so-called residual freight made up of individual or small numbers of wagons, carrying a variety of freight consignments — usually for small or medium-sized businesses.

Overall, BR's freight operations, which include Railfreight Coal, Railfreight Petroleum, Railfreight Construction, Railfreight Steel, and Railfreight Distribution, are highly profitable, although Railfreight Distribution recently registered a loss of £30 million.

However, Government pressure on each of the freight sub-sectors to reduce costs has forced many of them to remove their freight consignments from Speedlink and develop their own distribution networks, leaving Speedlink with a large number of small and unprofitable customers.

Eton claims the Queen for a day of revels



Three cheers for the Queen after she had declared a day's holiday in October in perpetuity to mark the granting of its charter by Henry VI in 1440.

By ALAN HAMILTON

ETON College cannot quite claim the Queen as one of its own, she being a privately-educated woman who has sent her sons a very long way elsewhere, but it made a valiant attempt yesterday when she visited its 550th anniversary year, for a celebration that would have taken place on its quincentenary in 1940, but for the Second World War.

Addressing the Queen in Latin, Tim Cunningham, Captain of School and Head Boy of the 70 King's Scholars, said she was almost an Old

Etonian, having been tutored in history as a teenager by Sir Henry Marten, then vice-provost of Eton. Looking at the Duke of Edinburgh, the Captain noted that he had received a Scottish education, something with which Eton was familiar through its current Head Master, Dr Eric Anderson. For lesser scholars, the speech was translated into English by Tom Michelson, Captain of the college's other 1,180 boys, the Oppidans.

The Queen, in reply, granted the school an extra day's holiday in October in

perpetuity in memory of the granting of its original charter by Henry VI in 1440.

"It has always seemed to me that one of the virtues of Eton's system is its determination never to patronise youth," the Queen said, adding that the school's achievements were second to none.

In a wry reference to the Old Etonians' party later in the day, the Queen said she had noticed "how nostalgia overcomes grown men at the thought of school days long past".

Accompanied by Lord

Charteris, the Provost of Eton, himself an Old Etonian and once her Private Secretary, the Queen went walkabout in the school yard among boys who had been given the day off, but who, dutifully, were on parade. Among them were Lord Ulster, son of the Duke of Gloucester, now in his second year, and princes of the royal houses of Nepal and Kuwait.

The Queen was given three cheers, led by John Hoffman, the President of Pops, the senior body of prefects entitled to wear brightly coloured waistcoats beneath the regulation black tailcoat.

Many of the rank and file, in contravention of the sober dress rules, sported gaily coloured socks for the occasion.

At lunch in the 15th-century oak-beamed College Hall, where the menu was of smoked salmon and cold roast beef, but no strawberry mess, the Queen and the Duke were presented with gold paperweights bearing the Eton pilgrim badge, once a souvenir of the "I've been to Lourdes" variety from the college's early days as a place of pilgrimage.

The Queen later attended a thanksgiving service in the chapel, at which the sermon was preached, inevitably, by another Old Etonian, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, in white surplice, was among Fellows of the College who heard Dr John Habgood, Archbishop of York, say that the best part of being an Etonian was that you did not have to worry about being an Etonian or not.

For all that, the influence of Etonians is not unlimited. The Queen was to have left in a carriage drive for Windsor Castle, but officials of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead refused to let carriages cross the now-pedestrianised Windsor Bridge, saying that they could not guarantee its safety under such a weight. Grammar school boys to a man, clearly.

College marches formidably onwards

Continued from page 1

time too. More than 30,000 tourists a year visit the college. In school holidays Eton masters teach a summer school for sixth-formers from state schools. In addition to Henry VI's 70 King's Scholars, this year there are 70 other Etonians whose fees are being paid by bursaries. Profits from this year's celebrations will be used to fund yet more bursaries.

College Library, the silver, and other collections of the old foundation, because of longevity and wealth, form one of the most important collegiate libraries of the Western intellectual heritage. Seven 550th anniversary exhibitions opened at Eton yesterday, ranging from OE artists and boys' work in the School of Mechanics (working

submarine, serious laser printing) to treasures of pen, pencil, paint, and prints of the Middle Ages. Many of these beautiful old things have just been rediscovered in the cataloguing and restoration of the past decade.

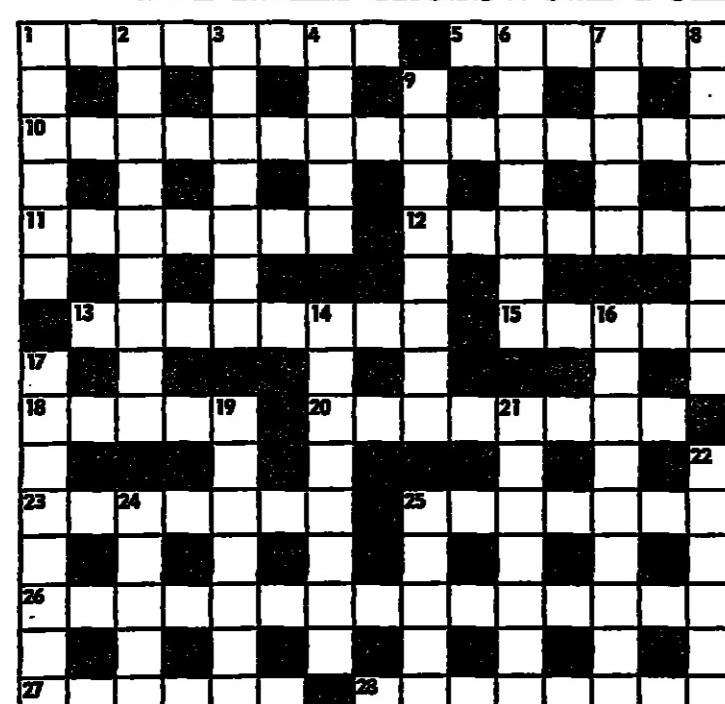
The Queen Mother (the royal from an Etonian background) came to the crescendo of coloured rockets and serpents of the illumination of the arms of the old coil, with the fleur-de-lis reflecting down the centuries the French territorial ambitions of the founder, and especially of his father. Anniversary souvenirs (sorry, memorabilia) on offer to OE's ranged from a silver copy of the 1624 cream jug at £1,600 to a mug decorated with a procession of boats, which, when lifted, plays the Eton Boating Song.

For his address to the served OE's, the Provost, Lord Charteris, took as his text

Nisi Dominus — unless the Lord build the house, their labour is in vain that built it. The Old Etonians then had sung to them their founder's prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus Christ, who hast created and redeemed me unto that which now I am; thou knowest what thou wouldst do with me; do with me according to thy will, for thy tender mercy's sake." It was in Latin, of course.

The most obvious physical bonds around the massed OE's were the chain necklaces for their identification badges. Security was rigorous. There was dancing and carousing till the early hours in the vast marqueses on Sixpenny to Humphrey Lytton OE, and cabaret by the Maiou brothers OE. It is not difficult to make fun of Eton. But on or off parade, it is also a formidable national institution. *Floreat Etona.*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,307



ACROSS

1 Call for silence by Indian clerk presenting king with a scarf (6).
5 When sounded a number of notes make harmony (6).
10 Warning against making least change in Belloc's poems (10,5).
11 Know-how required to organise steam railway... (7).
12 ... for Gainsborough line? (7).
13 Thick type, but doubly brave (4-4).
15 One owes it to a young girl with sex appeal (5).
18 Fancies a day in Rome, outside (5).
20 You can't move after encountering this guard? (8).
23 One consulting notice takes guard (7).
25 Reliable fighter? (7).
26 Literary conceit is a feeble mistake (8,7).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,306

URCHIN OLEASTER
N H N M O W O E
BOATSWAIN ALBUM
ER RUE GRAJ
ANGELIC INDICES
TEA H N C S
EGGST INTERCOM
N O N H E G
INTRIGUE PACER
W O T R O A
INVADER GROTUND
SIE D O D R I
DELFT ENTOURAGE
ORT E R H C G N
MAYORESS REGENT

27 Tell of executed cardinal (6).
28 Devon place of no return? That's beyond belief (8).

DOWN

1 Grow into suit (6).
2 Rock song has very sad introduction (4-5).
3 It's awkward to have to await settlement for a regular income (7).
4 Bizarre writer in Kentucky (5).
6 College girl singer (7).
7 It may be nesting in folded towel (5).
8 Distinguished beauty wants hot Greek island (8).
9 Sort of table that could be made of oak but not pine? (4-4).
14 Maybe Ceres and Dis are to fall out (8).
16 Very sharp stone (9).
17 Young girl, smart bird (8).
19 Fear one may be arrested (7).
21 Delighted by new order in a ledger (7).
22 Always after credit — refusal upset the drawer (6).
24 Key opens top in small bottle (5).
25 Pass on joint without using one hand (5).

Concise Crossword, page 13

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

DOUP
a. To plunge hot metal
b. The bottom of an egg-shell
c. A cavalry horse blanket

THESMOTHETE

a. An iron garden seat

b. A love-giver

c. A moth net

CAVENISH

a. A one-horse carriage

b. A pipe tobacco cake

c. A waterproof greatest

KULA

a. The bottom

b. Present-giving

c. A deep freeze

Answers on page 20

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24-hours a day, dial 0898 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Cumbria (within 016 5 510 731)

M-ways/roads M4-M5 018 5 522

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M25 London Orbital only 018 5 736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways

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Midlands 015 2 738

East Anglia 012 5 739

North East England 019 1 740

North-East England 019 1 743

Scotland 013 1 744

Northern Ireland 012 5 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

Yesterdays: Temp: max 8 am to 6 pm, 18C (61F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 12C (54F). Rain: 24hr 0.02 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, nil.

WEATHER

and edging into western parts of England and Scotland will start cloudy, possibly with a little rain, but become brighter and drier. Eastern England and Scotland will be cloudy with rain. Outlook: dry and bright at first but cloud, with rain, will spread from the west.

ABROAD

MONDAY: 1000-1010 CALM 1010-1020 1020-1030 1030-1040 1040-1050 1050-1055 1055-1058 1058-1059 1059-1060 1060-1065 1065-1070 1070-1075 1075-1080 1080-1085 1085-1090 1090-1095 1095-1100 1100-1105 1105-1110 1110-1115 1115-1120 1120-1125 1125-1130 1130-1135 1135-1140 1140-1145 1145-1150 1150-1155 1155-1160 1160-1165 1165-1170 1170-1175 1175-1180 1180-1185 1185-1190 1190-1195 1195-1200 1200-1205 1205-1210 1210-1215 1215-1220 1220-1225 1225-1230 1230-1235 1235-1240 1240-1245 1245-1250 1250-1255 1255-1260 1260-1265 1265-1270 1270-1275 1275-1280 1280-1285 1285-1290 1290-1295 1295-1300 1300-1305 1305-1310 1310-1315 1315-1320 1320-1325 1325-1330 1330-1335 1335-1340 1340-1345 1345-1350 1350-1355 1355-1360 1360-1365 1365-1370 1370-1375 1375-1380 1380-1385 1385-1390 1390-1395 1395-1400 1400-1405 1405-1410 1410-1415 1415-1420 1420-1425 1425-1430 1430-1435 1435-1440 1440-1445 1445-1450 1450-1455 1455-1460 1460-1465 1465-1470 1470-1475 1475-1480 1480-1485 1485-1490 1490-1495 1495-1500

Tunstall directors abandon bid plans

By JEREMY ANDREWS

SHARES in Tunstall Group fell 50p to 140p on the news that the executive directors have abandoned plans to make a bid for the company.

Mr Michael Dawson, the executive chairman, who with his family, owns 42 per cent of the equity, said that the executive directors were unable to agree a price with SG Warburg, which was advising the board on the terms.

The shares, which peaked at 480p before the crash, had sunk to 120p this month before the buyout proposal was announced.

Mr Dawson declined to comment on whether he had sounded out the Coal Board pension funds and Scottish Amicable, which hold stakes of 9 per cent and 5½ per cent respectively. The shares are

now exactly back in line with the striking price of the tender offer when the company came to the USM seven years ago.

Since then, Tunstall has tried to reduce its dependence on its main business of making emergency communications equipment for the elderly after gaining a high share of the local authority sheltered accommodation market.

Tunstall's pre-tax profits fell from £4.97 million to £3.11 million in 1988-89 after losses of £2 million at its former Ademco subsidiary, which distributes security equipment.

There was also a discrepancy of £360,000 between book and actual stock levels at Tann-Synchronome. Ademco was sold to the

Gardiner Group for £2.2 million in December.

Yesterday's announcement was accompanied by good news on the trading front.

Tunstall's pre-tax profits recovered from £1.68 million to £2.84 million in the six months to March on a turnover only 1 per cent up at £24.6 million due to the elimination of Ademco's losses and a fall in the interest charge.

Earnings per share jumped by 63 per cent to 11.1p and the interim dividend is to go up by 0.25p to 2p.

Tunstall said that the executive directors might consider bidding again, but did not intend to do so before the end of September — except in the event of a material change in circumstances.

Wiggins in line for FT-SE

By our CITY STAFF

WIGGINS Teape Appleton, the paper maker, will not immediately be included in the London FT-SE 100 share index when it demerges from BAT Industries, the London International Stock Exchange (ISE) said.

But the ISE said the stock will be eligible to join the FT-

SE 100 on July 2, provided its market value puts it in the top 90 companies on June 20 when the index is next reviewed.

Based on FT-SE 100 values on May 24, Wiggins Teape would have needed to trade at 215p-220p on that day to be included. Analysts expect the shares to open at between 200p and 210p on Friday,

when trading in them is scheduled to start.

A share price of 205p values Wiggins Teape at around £1 billion.

Analysts said it was hard to estimate the price for Wiggins Teape, as no grey market has developed in the stock and because of the uncertain outlook for the paper sector in general.

Pre-tax profits at Ritz Design Group, the women's clothing manufacturer which supplies Marks and Spencer, were ahead by 26 per cent to £2.05 million in the year to end-March, despite a difficult trading environment (Philip Pangalos writes).

The company benefited from investment in new manufacturing techniques and technology and improved operating efficiencies. Sales advanced by 38 per cent to £33.2 million, with Marks and Spencer accounting for 67 per cent of production.

Earnings per share climb by 29 per cent to 14.7p. The final dividend is improved to 2.67p, making a total of 4p (2p) for the year.

Mr Michael Bancroft, the chairman and chief executive, said Ritz has performed better than most of its competitors. He said: "We run a tight ship, with a strict control of costs."

Mr Bancroft added that Ritz is strongly committed to growth, organically and by acquisition. He said the current year has started well. Interest payments jumped from £155,000 to £742,000.

Ritz designs 26% rise

NICK GOLDFINGER

Running a tight ship: Michael Bancroft, who says costs are strictly controlled

Takeovers lift Brewmaker

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Wickes chief gives warning on profits

PROFITS are slipping at Wickes, the DIY and building materials group. Mr Henry Sweetbaum, the chairman, told shareholders at the annual meeting that profits for the first half of 1990 would be lower than for the same period last year.

The group had closed three production units so far this year, which would benefit its second half. In the first half of 1989, Wickes made pre-tax profits of £15 million on sales of £345 million. For all of 1989, pre-tax profits came in at £38.1 million. Analysts had been looking for about £44 million for the current year. Shares in Wickes plunged 21p to 169p initially but by the end of the day had recovered all the lost ground to close at 190p.

Takeovers lift Brewmaker

PRE-TAX profits at Brewmaker, the homebrew kit-to-residential healthcare group, surged from £130,000 to £497,000 in the year to end-January. The figures benefited from acquisitions and an exceptional credit of £154,000 from the sale of surplus premises. Earnings per share jumped by 224 per cent to 0.55p. There is a final dividend of 0.1p, making 0.2p (nil).

Impshire losses soar

PRE-TAX losses more than doubled at Impshire Thoroughbreds, the Irish horse breeder and bloodstock investor, from £1.21 million to £2.6 million (£2.45 million) in 1989. The loss is mainly due to a write-down in the value of bloodstock and the death of Prince of Dance.

Impshire made an operating loss of £305,000, compared with a profit of £436,000. The loss per share worsened from 26p to 35.6p. Once again, there is no dividend. However, Impshire says it has a holding of bloodstock with good racing prospects.

Downturn at Petaling Tin

PETALING Tin, the Malaysian dredging group, suffered lower production, lower sales, and a lower world tin price in the six months ended April 30. Operating profit fell from MR9.62 million (£2.1 million) to MR2.24 million, and net attributable profit from MR 5.32 million to MR 6.62 million. The board might declare a dividend when results for the year are known.

Scrip issue by Rolfe

ROLFE & Nolan Computer Services, the USM computer bureau and software group, reports a 51 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £1.14 million for the year to end-February. The company is proposing a one-for-one scrip issue. Turnover was ahead by 42 per cent to £5.46 million, boosted by strong growth in licence sales — particularly in Continental Europe.

Earnings per share rose by 48 per cent to 27.6p. The final dividend is 5.4p (3.5p), making 8.6p (5.6p). Mr Tim Hearley, the chairman, said the current year has started well. The shares climbed by 7p to 255p on the news.

Chief for Shearson brokerage

From a CORRESPONDENT

IN NEW YORK

AMERICAN Express has tightened its grip on Shearson Lehman Hutton, its investment bank subsidiary, with the appointment of Mr Jonathan Linen as head of its stockbroking and asset management operations.

The move also confirms the split of the investment bank's stockbroking and corporate advisory operations.

Mr Linen, at present head of the travellers' cheques group at American Express, takes charge of the United States' second largest broking firm, with 10,000 brokers and \$90 billion under management.

American Express has poured \$1.3 billion into its troubled investment banking unit, which was responsible for its record first-quarter loss of \$915 million this year.

American Express had planned to cut its 62 per cent stake in Shearson but when the full extent of its problems became clear it moved to take 100 per cent control. This does not rule out a sale of the separate divisions later.

Although expensive, high-temperature incineration is one of safest methods of dealing with toxic waste.

Euro deal for toxic waste firm

By WOLFGANG MUNCHAU

THE British company Rechem Environmental Services and Ecodeco of Italy have signed one of the first European cross-border deals in the field of toxic waste incineration.

The firms signed a joint venture agreement to build an incineration plant in Italy. Ecodeco, based in Pavia, northern Italy, has until the end of 1993 to find a site and obtain approval for the plant.

Rechem, which operates high-temperature waste incineration plants in Pontypool, Gwent, and Fawley, Hampshire, has the option to design and construct the plant at an estimated cost of £12 million.

Mr Paul Kaye, Rechem's finance director, said: "This particular industry is only just about to grow up. Waste is a global problem and therefore it is natural for companies like ours which have the technology to look for incineration sites throughout Europe."

Although expensive, high-temperature incineration is one of safest methods of dealing with toxic waste.

Move may signal parent's return

Drexel unit files for bankruptcy

From JOHN DURIE, NEW YORK

DREXEL Burnham Lambert, the brokerage subsidiary of the Drexel Burnham Lambert Group, has filed for bankruptcy, signalling a possible return of the firm in a much diminished form.

The parent group filed for bankruptcy in February and said it planned to liquidate its operations.

But recent reports have indicated that Mr Fred Joseph, Drexel's chief, plans to attempt to revive the firm.

Mr Steve Anreder, a spokesman for Drexel, said that the parent company intended to file a plan for reorganization as early as mid-June.

In court filings recently Drexel said the brokerage operations had assets of \$3.1 billion and liabilities of \$2.8 billion at April 30.

At the time of the parent's bankruptcy filing, the brokerage unit had assets of \$54 billion concentrated in the troubled junk bond sector.

Mr Joseph plans to con-

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POWER plus 90

COMBINED HEAT AND POWER SEMINARS

One by one, the great old names of British stockbroking go down, victims to owners which were more obsessed with the need to buy than with the skill to know what they were buying or why they were buying it. There never was any real sense in the Royal Bank of Canada owning a London securities house, but in the rush to be part of Big Bang, Kitcat & Aitken was snapped up as if stockbrokers were going out of fashion. This morning, Kitcat & Aitken is no more.

The closure came, according to one of the senior analysts who last night lost his job, "as a bolt from the blue," but the writing was already on the wall. Like virtually every other major London securities house, there was insufficient business to support the level of overheads and show a profit. Within Kitcat, executives comforted themselves on the not inconsiderable achievement of breaking even in the most difficult environment for 20 years. It was also felt the company has differentiated itself sufficiently, in remaining an agency broker specializing in

Canadians make the break with Kitcat

COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

believed to be one of the lowest cost firms in the City. It is a matter of assessing whether at the end of the recession the returns are ever likely to be worth the investment.

UB crunch

They do things differently in Holland when it comes to takeovers. United Biscuits was well aware of this. Indeed, the British group had a strong advantage when Koninklijke Verkade, the leading Dutch biscuits group, made a mental about-turn after moves to protect itself from takeover and decided that, if big was not necessarily beautiful, it was going to be vital

in the European biscuits and confectionery business. UB had a reputation for friendly deals, good relationships with employees and a long-term approach to trading strategy.

All this made it the favoured candidate to buy Verkade with the agreement of employees and the supervisory board, at an apparently impressive price. The trouble was, the deal did not sound so impressive to outside investors who had seen even more fancy prices paid for European food companies, not least in Britain.

In the London stock market, investor unrest – relatively rare

level and inspired talk of counterbids from third parties. In Holland, the disgruntled shareholders banded together under the leadership of Van Meer James Capel and simply stood out against the offer. UB did not find out that it was going to fall well short of control until its bid closed, since acceptances usually come through the main universal banks at the twelfth hour.

Having gone through the long preliminaries and mentally committed itself to the strategy implied by buying Verkade, UB was not going to walk away in a hurry. A weekend of negotiations produced a split-the-difference higher offer which has virtually assured success for UB. The price is expensive but will not hurt much in the short-term, given the size of the acquisition, and will make little difference in the long run given UB's plans for Verkade.

In Britain, management of Verkade would probably have

felt obliged to oppose a takeover to achieve an increased offer. The result is much the same. They do things differently in Holland, but not necessarily worse.

Rolled over

The heat is really being turned up under Molins, the tobacco machinery maker which seems to attract more than its fair share of takeover bids. Bid Number Six closes at one o'clock today, and with more than 44 per cent of the shares in the bag already, there is a good chance that Leucadia Group will push its stake beyond 50 per cent. If the offer lapses, Leucadia will demand the removal of three existing Molins non-executive directors and install five Leucadia nominees. Failing agreement, Leucadia will put the matter to the vote. One way or another, Leucadia will effectively be in control and Mr Neil Clarke, the chairman, will once again be looking for a new job. Shareholders who have resisted the temptation to accept the offer should waste no more time.

Mergers may put Co-op on the right track for 1992



Home World comforts: Harry Moore, head of CRS

DELEGATES to the Co-operative Congress, the annual parliament of the co-operative movement, finished three days of deliberations in Glasgow yesterday, demonstrating that there is life yet in what is still Britain's biggest retailer.

It was the 121st Congress, and financial results showed that 20 years of gradual decline may have bottomed out.

The Co-op is made up of 80 independent retail societies ranging from one-shop rural societies to Co-operative Retail Services (CRS), the biggest, with a turnover of more than £1.3 billion a year.

The Co-operative Wholesale Society (CWS), which like CRS is based in Manchester, is the biggest Co-op and has a turnover of £2.7 billion. The Co-operative Bank and the Co-operative Insurance Society (CIS) are part of CWS.

CRS has grown mainly

through rescuing societies in trouble, and the same process brought CRS into retailing CWS, with substantial interests in Scotland and the South-east, south of the Thames, had a retailing turnover of £800 million last year. CRS carries the flag north of the Thames. It is the Thanes region with its high-price fights, which is proving the toughest nut to crack.

The first six new-generation Co-op supermarkets were opened in the region and there are now about 80 of these in Britain. However, Mr Bill Anderson, this year's Congress president, disclosed that research had shown the Co-op was still dogged by a perception that it was old-fashioned and traditional.

The Co-op is 62 per cent reliant on food sales, which, given continued buoyancy in this trade, means results this year should stand up reasonably well.

The latest venture by CRS is to develop a chain of Home Worlds, of which five are open and 10 more are planned. Against national trends, Home World sales are still up by a quarter, according to Mr Harry Moore, the chief executive of CRS. The group pushed up its trading profits last year by 21 per cent and its profits-to-sales ratio rose from 3 per cent to 3.4 per cent.

The CRS message for this year is that things are still looking "quite good." It lies well behind the likes of J Sainsbury and Tesco in terms of sales. Sainsbury and Tesco are both at about the 7 per cent mark on returns. Only a handful of Co-op societies are above the 4 per cent level, although the Channel Island society had a 7.9 per cent return last year.

Sir Dennis Landau, chief executive of the CWS, has his own reason for feeling reasonably bullish about prospects, although he allows that this year will not be an easy one.

On Saturday, CWS is being joined by the North Eastern Co-operative Society, the biggest of the regional retail Co-ops, in a merger which breaks

new ground for the movement.

The North East is a strong society, making £7 million in trading profits last year, a return of 2.1 per cent. The region will run with considerable autonomy under its current management team, while gaining access to CWS cash to underpin a capital investment programme worth £40 million.

Investment capacity has been the Achilles' heel of many societies as they have attempted to compete with the other big grocery chains.

Sir Dennis said: "Other societies clearly will be watching the merger with interest. It could set a new pattern for the future." If other societies look to joining forces with CWS, the relationship will not necessarily mirror that of the North East arrangement, but will depend on individual circumstances, he added.

What worries many in the Co-op is that it is a merger of CWS and CRS seems as far away as ever. It leaves the danger that both will continue to take in increasingly large sections of Co-op retailing until two giants could virtually split the movement between them.

A big question in Co-op mergers is always who will run the shop. There is a chance for an easy transition for a CWS-CIS merger because Sir Dennis is due to retire in two years, leaving the way open for Mr Moore to take the chief executive role.

It remains to be seen whether the Co-op will be able to work its way through the complexities of its internal politics to seize the chance of being able to meet the competition on something like comparable terms. The game is not standing still. One of the final debates at Glasgow left delegates looking down the barrel of the single market gun in retailing and food manufacturing.

Continental manufacturers like France's BSN and Switzerland's Nestlé have shown the strength of the European threat. Aldi, the West German grocer which is not establishing itself in Britain, has also done so in retailing.

Derek Harris

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Worcester source

DEMONSTRATING his deft hand as a businessman, Peter Walker, who leaves his post as Secretary of State for Wales in July, has turned an initial investment of less than £10,000 in one of his constituency companies into a holding worth £540,000 at yesterday's closing stock market prices.

Walker, who has become a non-executive director of both Rothschild Wales and Worcester Group, first came across Worcester's founding chairman, Cecil Duckworth, in 1968 when he opened Duckworth's first factory in his Worcester constituency. Almost forced out of business by the Yom Kippur war in 1973, and the consequent rise in the oil price, Worcester survived by switching its production from oil to gas boilers and refinancing itself with £30,000 in financial assistance from Walker and a consortium of four or five friends. "My wife and I had been to dinner with him and his wife on several occasions," recalls Duckworth, whose company is now capitalized at £45 million. "We had become friends and I told him that we were going to the banks. He offered to arrange a long-term investment himself – I couldn't believe my ears at the time because we were such a chancy business, but obviously he has done incredibly well." Walker, then an Opposition backbencher during Harold Wilson's government, still owns 450,000 Worcester shares.

Marked difference

THE signing in Paris yesterday of the agreement for the new European Bank for Reconstruction and Development has cast a cloud of despondency over those individuals who have been striving for the past 17 years for Britain to host the EC trade marks office. For even though the EBRD is not within the gift of the EC – it is, after all, international, funded by 40 countries – mandarins in Brussels are understood to be using its imminent establishment in London as an excuse to allow the patent office to go elsewhere. "Britain is one of the biggest contributors to the EEC budget and yet no EEC

institution is based in Britain," complains John Murphy, chairman of Interbrand which creates and values brands – such as Hobnobs biscuits and Metro and Mastro cars – and who is also secretary of the Trade Marks Office Committee, a lobby group. "Although the ETO itself will be quite small, creating perhaps 200 jobs, for each one of those jobs it will create at least 10 outside, and, more importantly, it will create a sense of London being the intellectual property centre of Europe." Britain first put in its bid to host the ETO in 1973, when it joined the EC, and it is one of four on the short list – the others being Munich, Madrid and Amsterdam. At the request of the Government, Taylor Woodrow, the developer, long ago set aside a prime 8,000 sq metre site in St Katharine Docks for the purpose. And latest word is that the Irish, whose six month presidency of the EC expires at the end of next month, are trying to get the highly sensitive issue put on to their agenda before then.

YUPPIES and Puppies have been replaced by a 1990 version of the acronym – Sitsoms. This stands for single income, two children, onerous mortgage.

Seat of earning

IT is indeed an ill wind which blows no good and creditors of the collapsed US firm Drexel Burnham Lambert can perhaps take some comfort from the fact that the notoriety of the firms disgraced junk bond king Michael Milken is help-

ing to bring in some money. A mystery bidder has just put in an undisclosed bid for the nerve centre of Milken's Beverly Hills dealing operations – his now famous X-shaped desk – which has been put up for auction along with other DBL assets, to help meet its debts. According to one report from across the Atlantic, a trader has already bought what purports to be the Milken chair, but those who knew him well are sceptical. DBL insiders say Milken rarely sat still anywhere, and could lay claim to any one of six chairs on the west coast and more still in New York.

Kagan site

CHESS-playing Lord Kagan, best remembered for his Gannex raincoats is being dogged by controversy again. Clearly not man to let the grass grow under his feet, Kagan, who celebrates his 75th birthday on Derby Day and lives in a country mansion near Harrogate, has drawn up plans to stop it growing on a 27-acre site near the rural North Yorkshire village of Nun Monkton. But he is about to incur the wrath of a local action group. Kagan wants to develop the site as a circuit for speedway, go-karting and three-day events. Local GP Robert Porter, however, who will be meeting other protesters on Friday to draw up their line of attack, is adamant. "The idea is completely out of character with the area and must be stopped," he says.

Carol Leonard

TEMPUS

Westland comes down to earth

INVESTORS in Westland can no longer take comfort from the belief that GKN will eventually use its 22 per cent stake to launch a bid.

The Soviet withdrawal in Eastern Europe has made such a bid highly improbable and raised the question whether the all-important EH101 naval helicopter – originally due to enter service in 1988 – will be delayed further, or even cancelled. To make matters worse, the order expected from Saudi Arabia for 80 Black Hawk helicopters has failed to materialize.

All this knocked the shares back to 100p earlier this month, though they recovered to 108p on the better than expected first-half results. Pre-tax profits were 44.4 per cent ahead, from £8 million to £11.5 million in the six months to March, and earnings per share were 69 per cent up at 5.4p. The improvement was partly due to a £1.1 million fall in the interest charge and partly to the cutting of 400 jobs.

Unfortunately, the gap in Westland's workload was more evident than ever. Helicopter turnover fell a fifth to £128 million and deliveries plunged from 12 to five. The company expects deliveries to recover in the second half – at present there are orders for 30 machines all told. However, EH101 production needs to start in 1991.

With profits of £25.5 million

the interim dividend was raised modestly to 1.1p, a move which suggested that the US problems were not going to be that serious.

Since last year's total payment was 6.45 times covered, there seems little reason why the final 2.1p should not be maintained.

Unlike the colony's other

trading ports, its business is

by no means dominated by

Hong Kong. Inchcape Pacific

has been one of the group's

strictly limited.

Inchape has worked hard

to maintain some kind of

relationship with Peking in

the belief that China cannot

afford to destroy the strength

and vitality of Hong Kong's

economy. In any case, the

downside for Inchape is

strictly limited.

Inchape's overall result is that

market forecasts are not going

to be met, and if £16 million

had

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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Globe Fund	104.5	110.8c	-0.6	9.52	Ammer Ind	130.3	148.3	-0.4	1.53	Do Inc	280.0	306.48	+2.4	547	BDI Inv	510.0	75.16	+0.1	5.51	BDI Allianc	904.0	940.00	+0.5	5.00
High Inc Equity	133.9	142.48	-0.7	4.45	Capri	145.6	158.08	+0.5	1.63	BDI Inv Cos	114.0	122.0	-0.5	2.58	Do Acc	574.0	50.00	+0.5	5.00	BDI Equity Acc	567.5	581.00	+0.5	5.11
World Bond	78.4	82.08	-0.2	6.45	Euro Index	151.8	150.1	+1.5	1.56	BDI Int Cos	150.3	160.3	-0.3	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	52.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	BDI Equity Acc	567.5	581.00	+0.5	5.11
Amer Growth	157.1	202.2	-2.0	1.15	Euro S 5	152.1	150.1	+1.5	1.56	BDI Int Cos	73.7	77.75	-0.4	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	52.0	51.00	-0.5	5.00	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
Asian Pacific	125.1	145.1	-0.4	1.00	Euro S 5 S	152.1	150.1	+1.5	1.56	BDI Inv Cos	202.2	210.0	+0.2	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	52.0	51.00	-0.5	5.00	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
Asseco Europe	152.0	162.0	-0.2	2.00	Capri Res	161.9	162.0	-0.1	0.52	BDI Inv Cos	202.2	210.0	+0.2	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	52.0	51.00	-0.5	5.00	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
Capri Res	161.9	162.0	-0.1	0.52	Contra Fund	165.6	167.0	-0.1	0.52	BDI Inv Cos	40.0	41.00	+0.1	2.47	BDI Inv Cos	162.0	170.0	+0.2	2.58	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
Contra Fund	165.6	167.0	-0.1	0.52	High Sp S 5	167.1	168.0	-0.1	0.52	BDI Inv Cos	112.0	113.0	-0.1	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	162.0	170.0	+0.2	2.58	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
Global	102.1	107.0	-0.4	0.65	High Sp S 5 S	167.1	168.0	-0.1	0.52	BDI Inv Cos	112.0	113.0	-0.1	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	162.0	170.0	+0.2	2.58	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
General	170.5	182.3	-0.4	2.74	High Sp S 5	167.1	168.0	-0.1	0.52	BDI Inv Cos	112.0	113.0	-0.1	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	162.0	170.0	+0.2	2.58	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
Japan	102.1	107.0	-0.4	0.65	High Sp S 5	167.1	168.0	-0.1	0.52	BDI Inv Cos	112.0	113.0	-0.1	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	162.0	170.0	+0.2	2.58	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
UK Gm Inv	111.5	113.0	-0.2	2.72	High Sp S 5	167.1	168.0	-0.1	0.52	BDI Inv Cos	112.0	113.0	-0.1	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	162.0	170.0	+0.2	2.58	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
Do Acc	170.8	182.8	-0.4	2.74	High Sp S 5	167.1	168.0	-0.1	0.52	BDI Inv Cos	112.0	113.0	-0.1	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	162.0	170.0	+0.2	2.58	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
US Emg Cos	30.21	31.52	-0.4	0.00	High Sp S 5	167.1	168.0	-0.1	0.52	BDI Inv Cos	112.0	113.0	-0.1	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	162.0	170.0	+0.2	2.58	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
Monetary Acc	161.8	162.0	-0.1	0.52	High Sp S 5	167.1	168.0	-0.1	0.52	BDI Inv Cos	112.0	113.0	-0.1	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	162.0	170.0	+0.2	2.58	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
Am Inv	54.0	54.8	-0.3	5.03	High Sp S 5	167.1	168.0	-0.1	0.52	BDI Inv Cos	112.0	113.0	-0.1	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	162.0	170.0	+0.2	2.58	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
Elvins	47.05	50.22	+0.8	1.92	High Sp S 5	167.1	168.0	-0.1	0.52	BDI Inv Cos	112.0	113.0	-0.1	2.58	BDI Inv Cos	162.0	170.0	+0.2	2.58	BDI Equity Acc	74.0	75.00	-0.5	5.00
AMTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				CAPEL LIAISON MANAGEMENT	London ECRN SAL			Higher Inc	1062	112.8	+0.51	3.94	Higher Inc	126.0	140.0	+1.1	7.12	High Yield	194.2	200.28	+0.7	5.00		
16, Castle Terrace, Abingdon RG1 1DJ				GLASS/PAD INVESTMENT LTD	London ECRN SAL			Do Inc	280.0	306.48	+2.4	547	Do Inc	50.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	Do Acc	393.0	422.00	+0.5	5.00		
Tel: 0224 620070 Dealing (Franchise) 0860				GLASS/PAD INVESTMENT LTD	London ECRN SAL			BDI Inv Cos	114.0	120.0	-0.5	2.58	Do Inc	50.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	Do Acc	393.0	422.00	+0.5	5.00		
16, Gloucester Yard, London EC2R 7AN				GLASS/PAD INVESTMENT LTD	London ECRN SAL			BDI Inv Cos	73.7	77.75	-0.4	2.58	Do Inc	50.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	Do Acc	393.0	422.00	+0.5	5.00		
Tel: 071-302 0726				GLASS/PAD INVESTMENT LTD	London ECRN SAL			BDI Inv Cos	202.0	208.0	+0.5	2.58	Do Inc	50.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	Do Acc	393.0	422.00	+0.5	5.00		
16, Gloucester Yard, London EC2R 7AN				GLASS/PAD INVESTMENT LTD	London ECRN SAL			BDI Inv Cos	114.0	120.0	-0.5	2.58	Do Inc	50.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	Do Acc	393.0	422.00	+0.5	5.00		
Tel: 071-302 0726				GLASS/PAD INVESTMENT LTD	London ECRN SAL			BDI Inv Cos	114.0	120.0	-0.5	2.58	Do Inc	50.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	Do Acc	393.0	422.00	+0.5	5.00		
16, Gloucester Yard, London EC2R 7AN				GLASS/PAD INVESTMENT LTD	London ECRN SAL			BDI Inv Cos	114.0	120.0	-0.5	2.58	Do Inc	50.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	Do Acc	393.0	422.00	+0.5	5.00		
Tel: 071-302 0726				GLASS/PAD INVESTMENT LTD	London ECRN SAL			BDI Inv Cos	114.0	120.0	-0.5	2.58	Do Inc	50.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	Do Acc	393.0	422.00	+0.5	5.00		
16, Gloucester Yard, London EC2R 7AN				GLASS/PAD INVESTMENT LTD	London ECRN SAL			BDI Inv Cos	114.0	120.0	-0.5	2.58	Do Inc	50.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	Do Acc	393.0	422.00	+0.5	5.00		
Tel: 071-302 0726				GLASS/PAD INVESTMENT LTD	London ECRN SAL			BDI Inv Cos	114.0	120.0	-0.5	2.58	Do Inc	50.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	Do Acc	393.0	422.00	+0.5	5.00		
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Tel: 071-302 0726				GLASS/PAD INVESTMENT LTD	London ECRN SAL			BDI Inv Cos	114.0	120.0	-0.5	2.58	Do Inc	50.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	Do Acc	393.0	422.00	+0.5	5.00		
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Tel: 071-302 0726				GLASS/PAD INVESTMENT LTD	London ECRN SAL			BDI Inv Cos	114.0	120.0	-0.5	2.58	Do Inc	50.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	Do Acc	393.0	422.00	+0.5	5.00		
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Tel: 071-302 0726				GLASS/PAD INVESTMENT LTD	London ECRN SAL			BDI Inv Cos	114.0	120.0	-0.5	2.58	Do Inc	50.0	50.00	-0.5	5.00	Do Acc	393.0	422.00	+0.5</			

UNLISTED SECURITIES

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SECOND MARKET

Platinum pm fcc \$501.25 (\$296.05)
Palladium pm fcc \$121.75 (\$71.90)
Gold pm fcc \$1,155.10 (\$1,075.00)

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES				
Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
			Previous open interest	21573
287.0	2820.0	2288.0	2292.0	4567
333.0	2867.0	2253.0	2387.0	103
U.S. Sterling			Previous open interest	182136
55.00	55.02	54.59	55.01	3211
55.29	55.33	55.28	55.31	5541
U.S. Eurodollar			Previous open interest	30911
81.55	81.58	81.58	81.57	525
81.55	81.58	81.53	81.54	1189
U.S. Euro, DM			Previous open interest	71785
97.55	97.72	97.44	97.72	1277
			Previous open interest	71785
			Previous open interest	71785
Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three month ECU				
Jun 90	—	59.58	59.71	Previous open interest
Sep 90	—	59.54	59.57	59.55
US Treasury Bond				
Jun 90	—	91.30	92.07	Previous open interest
Long Gilt				
Jun 90	—	82.10	82.16	Previous open interest
Sep 90	—	82.75	83.50	83.50
Japanese Govt Bond				
Sep 90	—	55.75	55.80	Previous open interest
German Govt Bond				
Jun 90	—	82.80	83.10	82.77
			Previous open interest	82.77

COMMODITIES

LONDON FOX		LONDON METAL EXCHANGE			
		Official prices/volume previous day		London Metal Exchange	
	AMT Futures	(£/tonne)	Cash	3 month	Wt.
COCCA	Mar 990-995	Mar 990-999			
May 942-941	Jul 942-941				
Sep 849-848	May 1006-1005				
Dec 971-970	Jul 1024-1020				
	Vol 5553				
COFFEE	AMT Futures				
May 634-630	Jan 894-892				
Jul 651-650	Mar 700-695				
Sep 686-684	May 720-715				
Nov 680-678	Vol 2132				
SUGAR	C.Cupinotow				
FOB	Vol 2960				
Aug 316.5-162.2	Mar 298.0-98.0				
Oct 313.5-133.5	Mar 298.0-98.0				
Dec 315.0-0.0	Aug 297.0-96.0				
LONDON GRAIN FUTURES					
WHEAT close (2/3)	Vol 123				
In 118.75 Sp J118.75 Nv 117.80					
Dec 120.70 Mr 124.05 tyc 127.20					
SARLEY close (2/3)	Vol 45				
Sp 112.20 Nv 118.25 Ja 119.40					
Dec 122.60 My 128.90					
SOYABEAN					
AMT Futures					
Jan 119.0-21.0	Oct 121.0-21.0				
Aug 118.0-18.0	Dec 125.5-27.0				
LONDON MEAT					
FUTURES (kg)					
Live Pig Contract					
Mth:	Open	Close	Avg'te fatstock price at reproc-	MEAT & LIVESTOCK	
	(kg)	(kg)	Market on May 25		
Jun	134.0	135.5	(kg/kg)	Pig	Sheep
	GB (2)	GB (+/-)	111.10	188.20	Cattle
Aug	121.5	121.5	+5.14	-47.75	Beef
Oct	124.0	123.5	+5.14	-47.75	
Nov	121.8	121.4	+2.25	-2.25	
Live Cattle Contract					
Jun	unk.	—	Eng/Wld (+/-)	111.06	187.38
Aug	unk.	—	Scotland (2)	+4.71	-46.85
Oct	unk.	—	Scotland (2)	-36.1	-54.50

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We are an international firm of architects, based in Marylebone, currently working on-site on the refurbishment and restoration of a five star hotel and vacancies exist for the following:

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Ideally you will have a minimum of two years secretarial experience, excellent WP skills (Wordperfect preferable) and a minimum typing speed of 50 wpm combined with good communication skills and a sense of humour! Must be able to work on own initiative.

OFFICE JUNIOR

Willing and flexible person with common sense required to work for Architects Team. Some typing essential. Will cross-train on WP. Must be prepared to become involved in all aspects of office duties.

Salary Negotiable

Please apply in writing to:

Katrina Heroy
The Windsor Hotel Project Office
222 Marylebone Road
London NW1
(No agencies please)

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Salary: £12,500 p.a. - review 1st July

We are the world's largest non-governmental organisation working in the field of planned parenthood and related health services, and are seeking an experienced secretary.

If you are seeking an interesting and varied position then look no further, we require an experienced Secretary to join our busy Personnel and Administration Department, where you will carry out a range of secretarial and administrative tasks.

Applicants should be educated to 'O' level standard to include English Language together with secretarial training, RSA Stage 3 or equivalent. Good shorthand skills (50 wpm) and word processing skills (preferably Wordperfect) are essential, together with a flexible and friendly disposition.

Salary £12,500 p.a. with a review in July, plus attractive benefits package + 22 days holiday, free private medical insurance, life-time season ticket loan, pension fund, life assurance, health care programme. Please send CV to Personnel Department, IPPF, Regent's College, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London NW1 or telephone for application form on 071-486 0747 ext 7943. In view of the large anticipated response, only short-listed applications will be acknowledged.

Closing date: Monday 11th June, 1990.

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Blue skies, white sands...

£15,000 - Crawley

Our client is a major force in the UK Leisure industry. Currently enjoying a reputation second to none, a leading Board Director needs an independent-minded PA who can act on his/her own initiative and take early responsibility. Immensely interesting position - in addition to normal PA duties, you'll organise grand celebration "openings"; liaise constantly with Europe and cope with a myriad of delegated projects. French, German, Spanish all very useful. Skills (90/60). Age 25+. Young, friendly atmosphere. For details, telephone 071-493 5787.

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£15,000 + overtime etc.

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ERCO require a bright and enthusiastic PA for a busy and varied role within an architectural lighting company - assisting the Promotions Manager in a number of areas including - in-house exhibitions, seminars, proof reading, distribution of advertising material and management of WP files.

Please contact -

Louise Williams, ERCO Lighting Ltd,
38 Dover Street, London W1X 3RB.
Tel: 071-408 0320

OPPORTUNITIES IN DESIGN £14,000 + bonus

Rapidly expanding Design & Advertising company (beautiful offices in the West End) are looking for a variety of staff including a PERSONNEL ASSISTANT. Previous experience in personnel or a real desire to work in this interesting area, you'll deal with recruitment of staff, training, research etc. Also a CHIEF SECRETARY - working with a bunch of Designers & Artists, where the pace is fast, furious and fun. Both positions require good typing/word processing skills. Great benefits.

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could lead to a career
Production Assistant,
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opportunity, we
offer you a chance to
work in a professional
environment.

PA to a Director £16,000

Please contact Sarah or Tom
on 071-438 2777

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£16,000

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Besides ensuring the smooth running of an extremely busy office and providing full secretarial support, your responsibilities will include involvement in the administration of the Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Association. Possessing excellent shorthand, audio and WP skills, you should be seeking a challenging role where organisational and interpersonal skills are equally essential.

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Winfred Wong on 071-929 5850

RITZ RECRUITMENT, 120 MIDDELSCHIE STREET, BISHOPSGATE, LONDON EC1 7UF. Tel: 071-929 5850.

£14,500 Waterloo Small professional firm of legal advisors seeking a PA to handle two consultancies. Dealing with environmental issues and legal advice. No experience required. Age 35-45, please call Hodges Recruitment 071-629 6863 (rec Cons).

£14,500 + good benefits Large organisation involved in the legal and financial markets. An efficient secretary to assist a busy team. Good opportunities for the smooth running of his office. He will re-coordinate a busy schedule and ensure that his secretarial content is low and your administrative skills will be utilised. An extremely prestigious City office. Good prospects for promotion. Excellent. Salary £11,150 plus £3,350 bonus. Please apply towards your mortgage and Debenham Legal Services Ltd, 100 Newgate Street, City Rec 071-629 6863.

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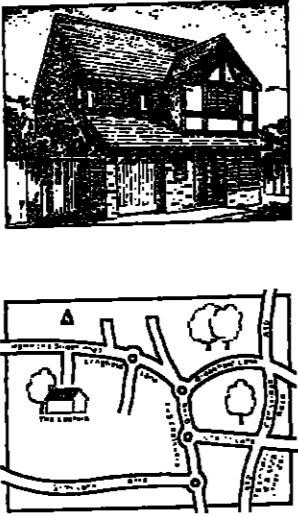
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COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

by Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

Strategy defies its limits

Providing financial services within the property market is becoming increasingly important. This is highlighted by Jonathan Edwards, former managing director of international property advisers Baker & Harris Saunders, establishing his own company to provide a comprehensive range of services.

Jonathan Edwards Ltd has been built on the concept of a "property merchant bank" to provide a full range of advisory and agency services to UK and overseas clients. The firm will eventually include surveyors, bankers, accountants and lawyers.

Mr Edwards says: "Property has become an integral part of the corporate strategy of modern business and the property market is becoming more complex and international. Traditional boundaries are being eroded with banks, insurance companies, pension funds, property companies, accountants and surveyors all offering property advisory services."

He says the new company will

Property investment advice has taken on new importance as traditional barriers are eroded

provide "pro-active and innovative" advice based on a thorough understanding of the market and the varied needs of clients. "This type of service will be required more than ever as both corporate and property clients, as well as occupiers, face the political and economic uncertainties of the next few years."

Investment advice is vital to financial services. A conference organized by the consultants Healey & Baker recently raised fears that the short-term expectations of the property sector might undermine the relative security which the property industry has enjoyed in the past 15 years.

Addressing the conference, Tim Sketchley, Healey & Baker's investment partner, said the improved liquidity that banks and overseas sources had brought to

the sector was at the expense of increased volatility. "Long-term equity investors in property will have increasing influence and, by definition, be more critical when creating the investment strategy for the 1990s."

The key issue facing the property industry was the extent to which debt-financed investments could be replaced by equity investors. The entrepreneurial attitude developed by property fund managers during the 1980s would, however, continue to dominate investment attitudes. "The days of passive management are over."

Mr Sketchley predicted that the investment portfolios of the 1990s would include a significant proportion of retail, despite its unattractiveness to funds in the short term. Office investment in London would soon feel the

effects of over-supply, but London's long-term investment prospects were attractive. He believed the best office investment could be a multi-tenanted building giving frequent opportunities to refurbish or redevelop so as to create added value.

He said the burgeoning leisure industry would be the "largest industry in the developed world" by 2000.

For funding in the 1990s, Mr Sketchley looked to new methods of unitization and securitization. Unitization enables the multi-ownership of a single property, which will provide "much-needed liquidity" to the property market.

The property market has recently seen the rise of the concept of mortgage-backed securities, whereby a building society or mortgage lender can raise funds using a pool of mortgages as collateral. Mortgage-backed securities allow the issuer to repackag their mortgage assets for sale in the capital markets.

■ Adding to the growing supply of offices in London Docklands, City Reach One at Millharbour on the Isle of Dogs was opened last week by Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport. Robert Ogden's 94,000 sq ft office building forms the first phase of the Greenwich View development in the Docklands Enterprise Zone, whose occupiers already include the Stock Exchange and Yamaichi Europe. The building, with views over Millwall Dock, is available for rent or purchase, and the joint agents Jones Lang Wootton and

Healey & Baker are quoting rentals of £22.50 per sq ft.

■ Rockfort Land has been given approval by Chelmsford Borough Council for its £100 million B1 development at Rectory Lane in the City. The site, formerly occupied by RHP Bearings, covers about 25 acres, and Rockfort has permission for a total of 485,000 sq ft of offices, business and

industrial space. Agents for the scheme, which will start later this year and will take four years to complete, are Jones Lang Wootton and Henry Butcher & Co.

■ Stourbridge Common Business Centre in Cambridge is one of the first 50/50 equity share schemes in Britain for commercial properties. A joint development by Urban Land Properties and John Laing (Eastern), it includes 23 offices, industrial and research and development units in a landscaped setting 1.5 miles from the city

centre. Units range from 1,133 sq ft to 6,900 sq ft. Dudley Anderson, Urban Land's managing director, says the specially tailored start-up scheme will help small companies take a first step towards freehold purchase of their own new self-contained business premises at a time of high interest rates. Offered through Bidwells of Cambridge, a purchaser pays half the freehold price now from £27,500 instead of £175,000 and he or she can buy the remaining half at the prevailing value at any time in the next three years.



Sun Alliance Group Properties has sold its landmark building in Birmingham, 78-90 Colmore Row, to Haslemere Estates for £4.7 million. Situated in the centre of Birmingham's business district, the 1920s building provides about 25,000 sq ft of prime office space. The transaction confirms the continuing confidence in the office market in Birmingham city centre. The building is occupied by Chesterstone, which agreed a rent with Sun Alliance last September of £322,000 per year. This is based on a 25-year lease with five-year rent reviews.

Tokyo leads world in office costs

TOKYO leads London as the most expensive place in the world for office space, despite increasing interest rates and a 25 per cent decline in the Nikkei share index, according to an office market survey of 76 cities by Colliers Stewart Newiss, a member of Colliers International Property Consultants.

An analysis of the biannual survey, based on rent and operating expenses, shows that the highest occupancy costs are £118 per sq ft in Tokyo, followed by London with £94 for the City and £91 for the West End, well above Hong Kong at £63 per sq ft and Sydney (£37). In the US, New York Midtown at £28 per sq ft is slightly less expensive than Washington DC at £30 per sq ft.

Office occupancy costs in London are nearly three times as expensive as the cost in cities such as Paris (£33), Milan (£32), Madrid (£32) and Frankfurt (£31). Other British cities — Edinburgh (£28), Birmingham (£23), Glasgow (£23), Leeds (£22) and Manchester (£21) — are significantly higher than European competitors such as Brussels (£16), Amsterdam (£12) and Antwerp (£10).

Keith Martindale, chief executive of Colliers Stewart Newiss, says opportunities for both investors and occupiers have increased during the past six months in the UK. "Selective purchases by investors who know their market will yield good returns now that prices have fallen to more realistic levels."

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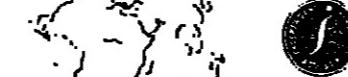
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Mother's removal of child to UK not wrongful

CVS
Before Lord Donaldson of Lymington, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Staughton and Sir Roger Ormrod [Judgment May 17]

The removal of a child by his unmarried mother from Western Australia, where the father had no custodial rights unless conferred by a court order, was not "wrongful" within the meaning of article 3 of the Convention on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, set out in Schedule 1 to the Child Abduction and Custody Act 1985, where the removal took place in the absence of any such order.

Further, where the mother retained the child after the father obtained such an order, her retention was not wrongful within the meaning of article 3 since the child was no longer habitually resident within Western Australia when the order was made.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by the father from Mr Justice Douglas Brown who on April 30 dismissed the father's application made on April 19 for the return of the child who had been removed from Western Australia on March 21 and brought to England by his mother.

The child had been retained here by the mother notwithstanding that on April 12 Mr Justice Anderson in the Family Court of Western Australia had granted the father sole custodial rights in the child thereby implyingly requiring his return to that jurisdiction.

Article 3 of the Convention provides: "The removal or the retention of a child is to be considered wrongful where—(a) it is in breach of rights of custody attributed to a person... either jointly or alone, under the law of the state in which the child was habitually resident immediately before the removal or retention; and (b) at the time of removal or retention those rights were actually exercised, either jointly or alone, or would have been so exercised but for the removal or retention."

However "wrongful" was the

rights of custody mentioned in sub-paragraph (a) above might arise in particular by operation of law or by reason of a judicial or administrative decision, or by reason of an agreement having legal effect under the law of that state.

Mr Ian Karsten, QC and Lord Messin for the father; Mr Andrew Kirkwood, QC and Miss Susan Cooper for the mother.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the parents who were unmarried had each emigrated to Australia from the United Kingdom of which they were both citizens. Their relationship had had its separations and its reconciliations.

Their child was born in 1987. In 1990 the mother determined to return permanently to England with the child, taking considerable care that the father should not be aware of her intentions. On March 21 she and the child flew to the United Kingdom.

It was said that such removal had been wrongful within the meaning of article 3.

After the father had obtained the order of April 12 the mother's failure to return the child was alleged to amount to his wrongful retention.

The English courts attached the greatest importance to giving speedy effect to applications under the Convention. Thus the present appeal had been expedited and was being considered less than four weeks after the child's return to Australia was requested.

The mischief at which the Convention and the 1985 Act were directed was the wrongful removal of a child from or its wrongful retention outside, the territorial jurisdiction of the courts of a Convention country.

Where that occurred it was the duty of the courts of any other Convention country where the child might be to order its return. That was always absolute.

That had occurred after the

operative word and that depended in part on the wording of the Convention as incorporated in the Act and in part, here, on the law of Western Australia.

His Lordship set out articles 3, 4, 5, 14 and 15 of the Convention. In his judgment, articles 14 and 15 were intended to assist a court which was asked to order the return of a child to ascertain the law of the other contracting state so far as it was relevant to whether the removal or retention was wrongful within article 3.

It could not have been the intention that the courts of the other contracting state should be asked to determine the issue of the applicability of article 3 so far as it turned on the meaning of the Convention itself, because that was something which the courts of both countries were equally able to determine.

In the present case, the court had seen reasons for the judgment given by Mr Justice Anderson when making his ex parte order on the father's application for custody and guardianship.

They covered not only the law of Western Australia in relation to custody, which his Lordship accepted unreservedly and also the judge's view on the applicability of the Convention, which his Lordship viewed in a different category, since in respect of that the English court was under an obligation to form its own opinion.

His Lordship referred to the judgment and to section 35 of the Family Court Act 1975 of Western Australia which provided that the right of custody of a child of unmarried parents vested in the mother unless a court order provided otherwise.

So far as custody was concerned the judge was, it seemed, finding that the father and mother had exercised joint custody over the child until the mother's removal, that only the mother had any right to custody until the order of April 12 vesting that right in the father.

The question was: did the

child had arrived in England.

Since articles 3, 4 and 5 were solely concerned with rights of custody, and the father had no such rights, his Lordship did not consider that the child's removal from Australia could constitute a wrongful removal within the meaning of the Convention.

Turning to the alleged wrongful retention after the order had been made and the mother served with notice of it, his Lordship agreed with the reasoning of Mr Justice Douglas Brown that retention in article 3 meant retention after a period of lawful possession, for example after a temporary visit in the exercise of rights of access. That, in his Lordship's view, was the situation to which the provision was primarily addressed.

If the words of the Convention had a wider meaning, the court should give effect to it. Clearly, the father of course retained his rights of custody and access when Mr Justice Anderson made his order on April 12 and equally those three rights had been breached by the mother keeping the child in England.

There was, it was true, no order for the child's return, but it must have been apparent to the mother that if she did not return with the child she would at least, failing to give the father his access rights under the order.

However retention was only wrongful in the terms of the Convention if it was in breach of rights of custody under the law of the state in which the child was habitually resident immediately before the removal or retention.

The court therefore had to decide where the child was habitually resident on April 12.

It was a very interesting question whether the child and his mother could establish habitual residence on arrival here in circumstances where they had every intention of staying indefinitely and settling. That, however, was not the point.

The question was: did the

child's habitual residence in

Australia which had existed up to March 21 continue thereafter?

Without saying that time might be necessary to establish habitual residence, in his Lordship's judgment, it took no time to terminate it. The mother ceased to be habitually resident in Western Australia from the moment she left bound for England with the intention of remaining here permanently, and for present purposes the child's intentions were the same as his mother's.

It followed that while the mother's conduct was in breach of the father's rights of custody under Western Australian law,

the child was not habitually resident there immediately before the retention. Such retention was accordingly not wrongful within the meaning of the Convention.

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CYCLING

Sutton and a Czech caught at finish after escape in mist

BY PETER BRYAN

SHANE Sutton, the experienced Australian captain of Britain's Banana-Falcon team and the youthful Pavel Padmos, of Czechoslovakia, were the losers yet the moral winners of yesterday's second stage of the Milk Race from Plymouth to Weston-super-Mare.

It was "the great escape". started in a Dartmoor mist and within sight of the prison, that came tantalisingly close to success before they were caught within sight of the seafront finish.

The fugitives held their lead for 107 miles with an advantage that went up and down like a yo-yo from a first time check which put them 25sec ahead to an almost unbelievable 7min 30sec when they had been on the run for two hours.

Sutton's initial attack was a response to those from other teams aimed at his race leader colleague, Chris Walker.

"I wanted to keep the pressure off Chris as much as possible. It was not a bid for a personal stage victory," the Australian said.

He found that the Czechoslovak, aged 19, who finished third in the recent Peace Race, was prepared to contribute to the pace-setting. Sutton was delighted – and surprised with his own ability

Boyer holds off pack

BASELGA DI PINA (AP) – Eric Boyer, of France, won the twelfth stage of the Giro d'Italia yesterday, breaking away from the pack on the final climb into this scenic Dolomite village. As he approached Baselga, Boyer was pursued by a pack of riders which included Gianni Bugno,

GOLF

Success at Muirfield would be a passport for Willison

By MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

RICKY Willison will be among the favourites for the Amateur Championship to be played over the Muirfield and Luffness New courses from June 4-9.

Willison, considered unfortunate not to have been selected for the Great Britain and Ireland Walker Cup team last year, has happy memories of Muirfield where the Amateur has not been played since Trevor Homer won in 1974.

It was on the Scottish course, in 1987, that he held a long putt on the last green in order to ensure that he played all four rounds in the Open Championship, won by Nick Faldo.

Harwood in top fifty

MIKE Harwood, the Australian who won the Volvo PGA tournament at Wentworth on Monday, has moved up 16 places to 44th, his highest placing, in the Sony ranking list in which there are eight Australians in the leading 50.

Nick Faldo, the runner-up to Harwood at Wentworth, retains second place behind

Greg Norman, of Australia. Its third position is Severiano Ballesteros.

SONY RANKING LIST: 1: G Norman (Aus); 2: N Faldo (Eng); 3: S Ballesteros (Sp); 4: C Strange (US); 5: J M Olazabal (Esp); 6: M Gadea (Esp); 7: P Azinger (US); 10: T Koga (US); 11: F Couples (US); 12: J Luthin (US); 13: J F Green (Eng); 14: J Lawler (Eng); 15: L Mize (US); 16: G Beck (US); 17: D Crosswell (US); 18: R Refsy (N Ire); 19: F Davis (Aus); 20: M McNamee (US).

Lagonda forced to change course

By PATRICIA DAVIES

RUSSELL Claydon, the far from mythical giant of Gog Magog, Cambridgeshire, is now trying to build a legend on the professional golf circuit but his amateur exploits have led to his home course hosting the Lagonda Trophy for the first time today and tomorrow.

Claydon, the title two years ago at Camberley Heath, was an amateur and scored of 65 in the process, but the Surrey course has been bought by the Japanese and is in the process of being reconstructed.

Miles of cart paths are being laid down, greens are being reshaped, a lake is being built and the 18th green is being dug up to

accommodate a new clubhouse.

Not surprisingly, the Lagonda, which had been at Camberley since its inception in 1975, was forced to look for alternative parking.

"Gog Magog were very keen to have us, largely because of Russell's impact," Clive Smith, the tournament organiser said.

"They wanted to put something back into the amateur game and we were delighted to move to East Anglia. It's a nice, old-fashioned course, but the members are really pleased to have a top-line tournament. I think it could be a permanent arrangement but we're all waiting to see how

it goes this week before committing ourselves."

There is no one of Claydon's stature in this year's field but Tim Spence, a self-confessed golfing bum from Sundridge Park, will be defending his title, and most of the field of 66 are scratch golfers.

At least the winner need not panic if he is not mechanically minded, for while Smith's 1930 vintage Lagonda will be on display throughout the tournament, the trophy itself is a silver replica that does not need to be tinkered with, only polished.

Given England's record against their opponents – one win in 18 matches against Australia, who are ranked second in the world, and one victory in 30 against New Zealand, the reigning world champions, with whom they have drawn twice – that is an optimistic assessment.

As England coach, Galsworthy has re-shaped the team during her three years in charge, and yesterday said: "They are playing the best netball I have seen from them. We are getting better and better and I think we could be there or thereabouts this time."

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Bulgaria is sending its most promising talent, 14-year-old Mai Hristova, and Czechoslovakia, Romania, Hungary and Canada will also be represented.

The main contenders for the Scottish title are Faith Arnott, who competes for the East Kilbride club, and Sinead Lyons, of Cumbernauld.

GYMNASICS

World class incentive for Scottish title

COMPETITORS at this weekend's Scottish Centenary Women's Gymnastics Championships at Meadowbank cannot complain of lack of incentive (a Special Correspondent writes).

The winner of the national title will represent Scotland at the Martin and Frost Centenary Cup at the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, on June 16 against some of the world's leading gymnasts.

Natalya Lashenova, world silver medal winner, and Yelena Sezonova, eighth in the last world championships, have confirmed they will compete in Glasgow. Both were members of the Soviet squad that won the team gold medal.

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NETBALL

Sdao to become the secret weapon

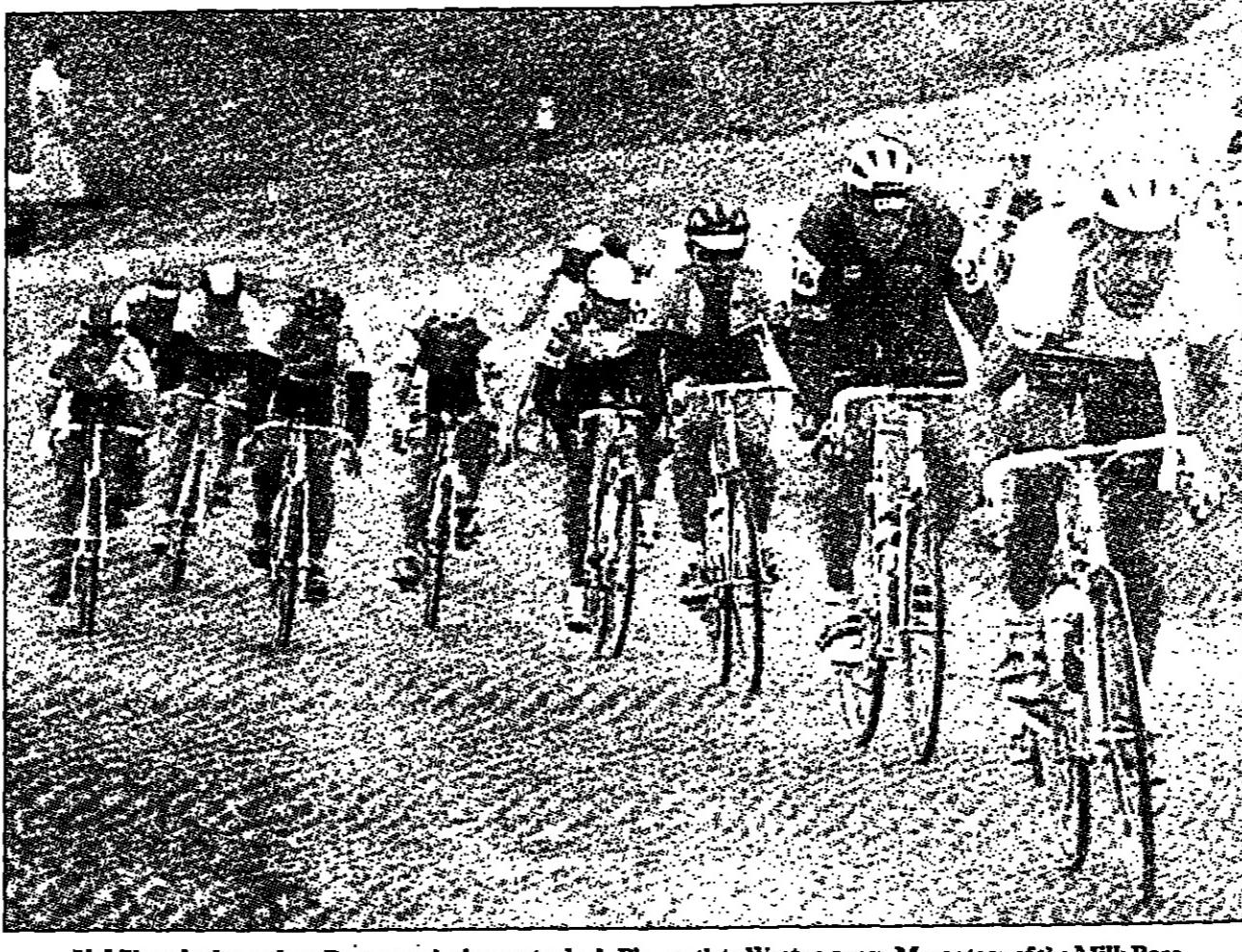
By LOUISE TAYLOR

BETTY Galsworthy will have her players' progress put into perspective when the England squad arrive in Australia for the Johnson and Johnson series, which also involves New Zealand, on Sunday.

As England coach, Galsworthy has re-shaped the team during her three years in charge, and yesterday said: "They are playing the best netball I have seen from them. We are getting better and better and I think we could be there or thereabouts this time."

Given England's record against their opponents – one win in 18 matches against Australia, who are ranked second in the world, and one victory in 30 against New Zealand, the reigning world champions, with whom they have drawn twice – that is an optimistic assessment.

But the historical precedents mean that England, who are ranked fourth, have nothing to lose, and accordingly, Galsworthy intends to place the accent on attack. "I am taking three shooters, because the game



Uphill work: the pack on Dartmoor during yesterday's Plymouth to Weston-super-Mare stage of the Milk Race

ATHLETICS

Ridgeon's return in doubt

By A CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Ridgeon, the silver medal winner at the 1987 world championships in the 110m hurdles, has had his career thrown into jeopardy yesterday when he discovered that he will miss the first eight weeks of the season with an injury to his right Achilles tendon. A similar injury to his left Achilles ruled him out of competition for the whole of last summer.

Ridgeon, aged 23, the former British record holder, had been looking forward to renewing his rivalry with Colin Jackson, his successor as Europe's leading hurdler, this year.

Ridgeon had been expected to return to action two weeks ago in a meeting in Santander, Spain, but pulled out when he strained a calf muscle in weight-training six days beforehand. He also subsequently missed a race in Granada last Saturday.

After an operation last June, when 20 per cent of his Achilles was removed, Ridgeon was told that he would only have a 50-50 chance of running again. A month's rehabilitation at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra earned this year under Peter Stirling, one of the world's leading sports physiotherapists, what is believed to have saved Ridgeon's career.

But this latest set-back must cast serious doubt over his ability to make a successful come-back. In recent interviews Ridgeon has admitted that he would not continue unless he was confident of his ability to challenge Jackson, formerly a great junior rival, and the world record holder, Roger Kingdom.

With the field restricted to a maximum of 288, and with there being a record entry of 510, 15 of the scratch players were bailed out, along with 167 off one and all entrants with a handicap of one and two.

Craig Casselle and Jim Milligan, both members of the Great Britain and Ireland team which became the first to win the Walker Cup on American soil, are in the draw, as is Danny Yates, who was a member of the US team and is one of 74 players entered from that country.

Birchfield to keep up poor Europe show

WHILE Britain has enjoyed a period of unprecedented success in the international arena in recent years, culminating in the men's team winning the European Cup for the first time last summer, its leading clubs have struggled to make any impression when they have come up against their European counterparts (a Special Correspondent writes).

This year's representatives, Birchfield Harriers, the GRE British League champions, are more worried about avoiding relegation to the B division than trying to become Britain's first European trophy winners.

Autumn has seen selected internationals in the squad for this weekend's match in Jerez, Spain, including the national 400 metres record-holder, Derek Redmond, Birchfield do not expect to offer a serious challenge to clubs like Racing Club de Paris, Larros Madrid and Trade Union Club, Moscow.

The reason, as David Lawrence, the Birchfield team manager, explained, is that the eligibility rules, so rigorously applied by the British authorities, tend to be more liberal on the Continent. "The clubs we compete against are more like national squads."

ABC have told the promoter, Barry Hearn, that no new date will be available until the autumn for the Brighton boxer, the holder of the WBC International

BOXING

Hodkinson is ambitious to uphold a proud tradition

By GEORGE ACE

PAUL Hodkinson finished the serious part of his training in the Eastwood gymnasium in Belfast yesterday and will fly to Manchester this morning to make his final preparations for the World Boxing Council's featherweight title contest against Marcos Villasana, of Mexico, on Saturday night.

Hodkinson is a fresh-faced young goliath from Kirby, in Lancashire, who is an ardent Liverpool supporter and is, arguably, the most exciting boxer this side of the Atlantic.

But he has progressed to this world title bout almost unnoticed and without all the hyperbole that has surrounded many recent British challengers for world honours.

He will take an unbeaten record spanning 18 contests into the ring, which he enters as European nine-stone champion, having relinquished the British title shortly after defeating Peter Harris, of Swansea, for a second time last year. He has won 17 bouts inside the distance, and 13 of those have ended in six rounds or less. The only blemish on his record is the draw he fought against Tomas Arguello, in Panama in July, 1987. Three months later he knocked out in six rounds in Belfast.

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ABC have told the promoter, Barry Hearn, that no new date will be available until the autumn for the Brighton boxer, the holder of the WBC International

title and undefeated in 22 bouts to meet the Jamaican, who has already beaten two British challengers, Herol Graham and Michael Watson.

Hearn said: "This is disappointing for Chris but he will get his chance at a world title in the near future." Graham, meanwhile, challenged the British light-middleweight title-holder, Gary Stretch, who won his middleweight debut at the weekend. "He says he is one of the best. I think I am the best," he said.

After his first encounter with Chaney, in February, Williams complained he felt as if he were drugged or was suffering from food poisoning. This time a doctor was called after the contest to his hotel room because he was vomiting but he suffered no further ill effects and was able to travel home to London yesterday.

It is not just the coaches who benefit. Athletes with disabilities also attend and learn about what may be required of them from an athletics club. Knowing how to get the best out of a coach is also important, encouraging him or her to understand the nature of a specific disability.

The awareness days are designed to give coaches a greater understanding of the needs of disabled athletes. A prospective club member who is disabled will then hopefully be welcomed instead of diverted to a club specifically for the disabled.

SPORT FOR THE DISABLED

Aiming for awareness

By JANE WYATT

A SPONSORSHIP deal with the long-term aim of integrating athletes with disabilities into athletics clubs has been reached under the auspices of the British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB), the Amateur Athletic Association (AAA), and the British Sports Association for the Disabled (BSAD). Post Office Counter is funding the three-year development programme as part of £4 million support for British athletics coaching.

The three organisations are promoting several "disability awareness days", aimed chiefly at able-bodied coaches. The first of these are in the north of England, at Stanley Park Stadium, in Blackpool, today, and at Moulton Stadium, in Jarrow, on Saturday.

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BADMINTON

Drug tests ordered as pressure increases

From RICHARD EATON
TOKYO

THE International Badminton Federation ruled at its annual general meeting here yesterday that all players shall be eligible for drug tests at any time, not merely during competitions.

The IBF, concerned about badminton's image as an exceptionally clean sport, with its Olympic debut only two years away, plans to organise such tests from now on.

The intention is to prevent the start of steroid body-building campaigns as the competitive load upon players increases. However, Ian Palmer, has also expressed his concern in the past few days about another kind of drug-taking – the inadvertent consumption of ephedrine, through medicines.

Already, a three-month ban has been imposed upon Pennille Dupont, of Denmark, stopping her from playing in the world team finals, which restart here today. "At the moment, the message doesn't seem to be getting through," Palmer said.

The financial influence of the Olympics is also imminent. About £750,000 is about to become available, which has encouraged the IBF to buy new offices, and a further building it plans to use after an expected badminton explosion, beginning in 1992.

Overseeing this will be Arthur Jones, who yesterday was elected to succeed Palmer, and who thus, in August, becomes the first Englishman to be IBF president for 14 years.

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● CRICKET: 42
● RACING: 41

SPORT

Wright's case for promotion

From STUART JONES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT
CAGLIARI

Cagliari..... 0
England XI..... 6

MARK Wright, the last player to be included in England's official World Cup squad, could be the first to force his way into an otherwise settled side. The impact he made during an abbreviated and belated appearance here yesterday suggests that he will be a genuine contender for a central defensive role.

His inclusion was in doubt until the moment the list had to be submitted to FIFA, and he was introduced against Cagliari for only the last 21 minutes, in place of Walker. If he is to be promoted, though, he will come in for Butcher, who has recently been worryingly unreliable on the ground.

England, toiling in the Sardinian heat, were only 2-0 ahead before Wright amply illustrated the value of a defender who has the ability, and the belief, to be able to play his way out of trouble and launch an attack. "He has given me food for thought", Bobby Robson conceded.

None of his regular back four is naturally comfortable on the ball. Each has a quality to offer to the unit - Stevens is athletic, Walker is quick, Butcher is tall and Pearce is powerful - but collectively their distribution tends to be inaccurate and predictable.

England's manager has stressed the importance of "playing from the back" and keeping possession will be especially crucial during the forthcoming weeks. Although Cagliari were tiring, Wright showed that he can be the elegant and precise individual whom Bobby Robson requires to reinforce his defence.

Wright was less blameless than most during the European Championship fiasco two summers ago, but injury disrupted his international career. A severely bruised thigh threatened to end his ambitions of being included in the party here, and his recuperation seems to have been completed even quicker.



Two against one: Platt and McMahon put their numerical advantage to good use as England cruise to an easy victory in Cagliari yesterday

than he expected.

He was fortunate to be ushered on when Cagliari's commitment was fading. During the first half, McMahon, in particular, was the victim of several jarring challenges and Bobby Robson had to remind his reserves to resist the temptation to retaliate. He was justifiably encouraged by the disciplined response.

Beardsley, honoured with the captaincy, nominated himself as the penalty-taker to add the third, after Bull had been brought down midway through the second half.

Beardsley and Bull fashioned the fourth for Platt, and Wright, carrying the ball purposefully from the back, was involved in the fifth, also claimed by Platt, and the sixth, by Bull. The Wolver-

hampton Wanderers' forward finished his productive afternoon with a spectacular overhead kick which struck the foot of both posts.

It is dangerous to overestimate the significance of such occasions. The previous night, for instance, Brazil suffered the apparent indignity of being beaten 1-0 by Umbria, an Italian third division side.

Claudio Ranieri, the manager who has lifted Cagliari from the third to the first division in successive seasons, put the affair, which was held behind only half-closed doors, into realistic perspective.

After picking out Stevens and McMahon as the individuals who could feature successfully

IAN STEWART

Top seeds bow out on novel day of surprise

From ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
PARIS

HISTORY was made at the French Open yesterday, though not in the way Stefan Edberg and Boris Becker would have liked. For the first time, the top two seeds were beaten in the opening round of a grand slam event. Edberg, failing to the young and slender Spaniard, Sergi Bruguera, in three sets and Becker following shortly after, beaten for the second time in the month by the Yugoslav, Goran Ivanisevic.

Though both were classed as major upsets, the defeats were not entirely illogical. Neither Becker nor Edberg has been as convincing on clay this year as they were last when they were a semi-finalist and a finalist respectively at Roland Garros, while both Bruguera and Ivanisevic are talented clay court players who only needed to add a touch of consistency to their games to break into the top 20 in the world.

Becker has never lost in the first round of a grand slam tournament, but has always been vulnerable in the first few days of a tournament. "It's impossible to play my best in the early rounds," Becker said. "For him, every round is a final. But all the top players want to get better and better through the tournament. It's why there are upsets."

Becker was surprised as much by the stamina of the lanky Yugoslav, who had

played four matches last week to help his country win the World Team Cup, as by the power of his serve. Though he took the first set 6-4, the Wimbledon champion dropped his serve early in the second set. That revived Becker's fears and gave the Yugoslav new heart. Ivanisevic kept his advantage, levelled the match at 1-1 with an ace, one of 19 he served in the match, and took the third set 7-5 with passes on the forehand and backhand, which were straight from Becker's own locker.

From there, the writing was very much on the wall for the West German and he seemed to feel it as much as anyone. Two more breaks in the first and fifth game of the final set assured the 5-7, 6-4, 7-5, 6-2 victory in just over three hours. "He was playing out of his mind. I hoped he might get tired, but he just seemed to get better and better," Becker said. "But don't write me off yet. I'm only 22."

Amid the mayhem, Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario began the defence of her title with a sedate 6-1, 6-3 win over Noelle Van Lottum. But with Becker, Edberg, Emilio Sanchez and Jay Berger all out in the first round, the men's singles is more wide open than ever. Wisely, Ladbrokes are refusing to give odds until the semi-finalists are known.

More tennis, Page 43

Alcohol warning on video

By JOHN GOODBODY

JOHN Barnes and Terry Butcher, two members of the England World Cup football squad, appear in a health education video which was launched yesterday by Alcohol Concern to encourage young people to adopt disciplined and sensible drinking habits.

The video features players, supporters and administrators from all levels of the game, advocating a healthy and responsible approach to alcohol. It is being distributed through youth organisations, health promotion units and football club community programmes. Butcher, the Rangers defender, says in the video: "I think anybody coming up, any youngsters coming through, cannot see excessive drinking as a part of their fitness campaign. So it is very important, and the more people that get involved the better."

• BBC Television's coverage of the FA Cup final replay between Manchester United and Crystal Palace attracted 13.9 million viewers, the highest audience for any televised football match this season.

Waddock dropped at the eleventh hour

From CLIVE WHITE,
RABAT, MALTA

A CAREER that has had its share of ups and downs was in cool descent yesterday when Gary Waddock was dropped from the Republic of Ireland's official World Cup squad, having been included in the provisional one which left Dublin four days ago. The uncapped Alan McLoughlin, of Swindon Town, takes his place.

It is rare indeed for a player to be left out of the World Cup reckoning at this late stage for

any reason other than injury. But Waddock is in perfect health. The fact that the Millwall player's midfield colleagues are struggling to recover from serious injury makes Jack Charlton's decision to omit Waddock sound illogical.

Faced with the possibility of losing Houghton or Whelan, perhaps even both, it has dawned on Charlton that he cannot entrust such crucial responsibility to Waddock.

"I've called in Alan because I need somebody to support

the front players. If I'm losing Whelan and Houghton I need somebody to get forward. McLoughlin is a very good runner and can get goals. We haven't got a player like him," Charlton said.

Clearly the decision was as hard for Charlton to relay as it was for Waddock to receive. One would have thought, though, that he could have found a more private place than the arrival hall at Malta airport on Monday to have passed on the bad tidings. But Charlton, having taken

the decision prior to the exhausting 11-hour journey from Turkey, clearly could not live with the thought a minute longer. Outwardly forthright and hard, Charlton, inwardly, is made of much softer stuff.

McLoughlin arrived here last night fresh, or more probably weary, from his triumph in the play-offs at Wembley on Monday, when he could lay claim to Swindon's crucial goal. A career that started out none too successfully as a full back at Manchester United is now clearly in its ascent.

Swindon's status problem unresolved

By LOUISE TAYLOR

THE question of whether Swindon Town will assume the first division place they earned by beating Sunderland in the second division play-off final on Monday remained unanswered yesterday.

The subject of a Football League inquiry into alleged irregular payments to players last August, Swindon could, if found guilty, be stripped of their newly-acquired status, or even demoted.

The situation is complicated by the fact that Brian Hillier, formerly the chairman of Swindon, Lou Macari, Osvaldo Ardiles's predecessor as manager, and Vincent Farrer, the former club accountant, are all on con-

dential bail after being charged with intending to defraud the Inland Revenue by making payments to Swindon Town employees without deducting tax and national insurance, between 1985 and 1989. They are due to appear before Swindon magistrates on Tuesday, June 12, but it is expected that the case will take several months to come to Crown Court.

The League is confident that any verdict it reaches following an investigation into an alleged breach of its own regulations would not prejudice the legal proceedings. Nevertheless, Ian Cotter, the League's press officer, said: "We are still taking advice from our lawyers on the subject."

If the League's lawyers decided that a hearing would be prejudicial, it is conceivable that Swindon could spend next season in the first division, but be automatically relegated at the end of it, regardless of where they finish.

With next season's fixture list in the process of compilation and due for publication in mid-July, it is understood that the League hopes to announce new inquiry date within the next fortnight. In the meantime, the League's fixture computer is classifying Swindon as a first division team, and the club has raised season ticket prices.

Gary Herbert, the present chairman, said: "We have received no comeback

from the League as yet about a date for our hearing. Until that happens we cannot plan for the future."

That is a problem shared by Sunderland, the beaten play-off finalists, and Sheffield Wednesday, who were relegated after finishing eighteenth in the first division.

Should Swindon be denied promotion, as is widely anticipated, either club could fill the resultant vacancy. Meanwhile, the League says it will wait "at least a few weeks" before deciding whether to hold the play-offs at Wembley next year. "There will be a detailed analysis as to how the three days have gone," a spokesman said. In total, more than 130,000 spectators watched the three games.

HAMPSHIRE moved to within four points of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, joint leaders of the county championship, by beating Yorkshire by five wickets at Headingley yesterday (Geoffrey Wheeler writes). Hampshire's third win in five matches came with seven balls to spare with the Smith brothers, Chris and Robin, both scoring half-centuries.

Yorkshire have now lost all four of their championship matches this season, a sequence almost matched by Gloucestershire, under their new coach, Eddie Barlow, whose defeat by 10 runs by Middlesex at Lord's was their third in the same number of games. They remain bottom of the table.

Worcestershire, the champions, were thwarted by the weather at Edgbaston, having reached 106 for one in search of 242 to beat Warwickshire, with Curtis and Neale going well.

A sporting scandal to shame World Cup hosts

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